

Contents

Preface vii

List of Abbreviations xiii

INTRODUCTION. The Problem of Nature 1

ONE. Observing Nature 26

TWO. Systems Theory, Cybernetics,
and Self-organization 51

THREE. Emerson's Environments 70

FOUR. Thoreau's Moral Vision 131

FIVE. The American System of Nature 184

Coda 230

Notes 233

Works Cited 255

Index 263