

Contents

i. Myth and Literature in a New World	3
ii. Cannibals and Christians: European vs. American Indian Culture	25
iii. A Home in the Heart of Darkness: The Origin of the Indian War Narratives (1625-1682)	57
iv. Israel in Babylon: The Archetype of the Captivity Narratives (1682-1700)	94
v. A Palisade of Language: Captivity Mythology and the Social Crisis (1688-1693)	116
vi. The Hunting of the Beast: Initiation or Exorcism? (1675-1725)	146
vii. The Search for a Hero and the Problem of the "Natural Man" (1700-1765)	180
viii. A Gallery of Types: The Evolution of Literary Genres and the Image of the American (1755-1785)	223
ix. Narrative into Myth: The Emergence of a Hero (1784)	268
x. Evolution of the National Hero: Farmer to Hunter to Indian (1784-1855)	313
xi. Society and Solitude: The Frontier Myth in Romantic Literature (1795-1825)	369
xii. The Fragmented Image: The Boone Myth and Sectional Cultures (1820-1850)	394
xiii. Man without a Cross: The Leatherstocking Myth (1823-1841)	466

viii REGENERATION THROUGH VIOLENCE

xiv. A Pyramid of Skulls	517
Notes	569
Selected Bibliography	593
Index	623