

# CONTENTS

<i>Preface: Poetics, Culture, Rhetoric</i>	ix
1 Modest Claims	1
2 Emily Dickinson and American Identity	15
3 Public and Private: Double Standards	31
4 Genteel Rhetoric, North and South	45
5 Edgar Allan Poe: Metaphysical Rupture and the Sign of Woman	67
6 Claiming the Bible: Slave Spirituals and African-American Typology	83
7 Women's Bibles	97
8 Fragmented Rhetoric in <i>Battle-Pieces</i>	113
9 Plural Identities and Local Color	125
10 Emma Lazarus' American-Jewish Prophetics	139
11 Paul Laurence Dunbar's Crossing Languages	153
12 Harvard Formalism	163
13 Walt Whitman's Republic of Letters	175
Postscript: Charting American Trends: Stephen Crane	201
<i>Notes</i>	211
<i>Sources and Abbreviations</i>	247
<i>Index</i>	251