CONTENTS

List of illustrations
Notes on contributors
Acknowledgments
Chronology of works and events 1773–1925

Introduction
DALE M. BAUER AND PHILIP GOULD

Part 1: Historical and theoretical background

1 The postcolonial culture of early American women’s writing
ROSEMARIE ZAGARRI

2 Women in public
DANA D. NELSON

3 Antebellum politics and women’s writing
STEPHANIE A. SMITH

Part 2: Genre, tradition, and innovation

4 Captivity and the literary imagination
KATHRYN ZABELLE DEROUNIAN-STODOLA

5 Nineteenth-century American women’s poetry
ELIZABETH PETRINO

6 Women at war
SHIRLEY SAMUELS
Contents

7 Women, anti-Catholicism, and narrative in nineteenth-century America 157
SUSAN GRIFFIN

8 Immigration and assimilation in nineteenth-century US women's writing 176
PRISCILLA WALD

Part 3: Case studies

9 The uses of writing in Margaret Bayard Smith's new nation 203
FREDRIKA J. TEUTE

10 The sentimental novel: the example of Harriet Beecher Stowe 221
GAIL K. SMITH

11 African-American women's spiritual narratives 244
YOLANDA PIERCE

12 The postbellum reform writings of Rebecca Harding Davis and Elizabeth Stuart Phelps 262
LISA A. LONG

13 "Strenuous Artistry": Elizabeth Stoddard's *The Morgesons* 284
SANDRA A. ZAGARELL

14 *Minnie's Sacrifice*: Frances Ellen Watkins Harper’s narrative of citizenship 308
FARAH JASMIN GRIFFIN

Conclusion 320
MARY KELLEY

Index 328