Contents

PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION xvii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS xxv

Beginnings to 1700

Introduction 1
Timeline 15

STORIES OF THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD 17

The Iroquois Creation Story (version by David Cusick) 17
Pima Stories of the Beginning of the World
(versions by Thin Leather and J. W. Lloyd) 21
The Story of the Creation 22
The Story of the Flood 24

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS (1451–1506) 31
From Letter to Luis de Santangel Regarding the First Voyage
(February 15, 1493) 32
From Letter to Ferdinand and Isabella Regarding the Fourth Voyage
(July 7, 1503) 33

BARTOLOMÉ DE LAS CASAS (1474–1566) 35
The Very Brief Relation of the Devastation of the Indies 36
From Hispaniola 36
From The Coast of Pearls, Paria, and the Island of Trinidad 38

ÁLVAR NÚÑEZ CAZA DE VACA (ca. 1490–1558) 40
The Relation of Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca 41
[Dedication] 41
The Malhado Way of Life 42
[Our Life among the Avavares and Arbadaos] 44
[Pushing On] 45
[Customs of That Region] 45
[The First Confrontation] 46
[The Falling-Out with Our Countrymen] 47
THOMAS HARRIOT (1560–1621)
A Brief and True Report of the New Found Land of Virginia 49
From Of the Nature and Manners of the People 49

JOHN SMITH (1580–1631)
The General History of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles 57
The Third Book. From Chapter 2. What Happened till the First Supply 57
The Fourth Book [Smith's Farewell to Virginia] 66
A Description of New England 66
From New England's Trials 69

NATIVE AMERICAN TRICKSTER TALES 72
WINNEBAGO
Felix White Sr.'s Introduction to Wakjankaga (transcribed and translated by Kathleen Danker and Felix White) 75
From The Winnebago Trickster Cycle (edited by Paul Radin) 78

SIOUX
Ikto Conquers Iya, the Eater (transcribed and edited by Ella C. Deloria) 84

KOASATI
The Bungling Host (versions by Bel Abbey and Selin Williams; recorded and translated by John R. Swanton and Geoffrey Kimball) 87

CLATSOOP CHINOOK
Coyote—His Myth (translated and transcribed by Franz Boas and William Bright) 92

NAVAJO
Coyote, Skunk, and the Prairie Dogs (performed by Hugh Yellowman; recorded and translated by Barre Toelken) 98

WILLIAM BRADFORD (1590–1657)
Of Plymouth Plantation 105
Book I 105
From Chapter I [The English Reformation] 105
Chapter IV. Showing the Reasons and Causes of Their Removal 107
From Chapter VII. Of Their Departure from Leyden 109
Chapter IX. Of Their Voyage, and How They Passed the Sea; and of Their Safe Arrival at Cape Cod 114
Chapter X. Showing How They Sought Out a Place of Habitation, and What Befell Them Thereabout 116
ANNE BRADSTREET (ca. 1612–1672) 187
The Prologue 188
In Honor of that High and Mighty Princess Queen Elizabeth of Happy Memory 189
To the Memory of My Dear and Ever Honored Father Thomas Dudley Esq. 193
To Her Father with Some Verses 195
Contemplations 195
The Flesh and the Spirit 202
The Author to Her Book 204
Before the Birth of One of Her Children 205
To My Dear and Loving Husband 206
A Letter to Her Husband, Absent upon Public Employment 206
Another [Letter to Her Husband, Absent upon Public Employment] 207
In Reference to Her Children, 23 June 1659 208
In Memory of My Dear Grandchild Elizabeth Bradstreet 210
In Memory of My Dear Grandchild Anne Bradstreet 210
On My Dear Grandchild Simon Bradstreet 211
For Deliverance from a Fever 211
Here Follows Some Verses upon the Burning of Our House 212
As Weary Pilgrim 213
To My Dear Children 214

MICHAEL WIGGLESWORTH (1631–1705) 217
From The Day of Doom 218

MARY ROWLANDSON (ca. 1636–1711) 235
A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson 236

EDWARD TAYLOR (ca. 1642–1729) 267
Psalm Two (First Version) 268
Preparatory Meditations 269
Prologue 269
Meditation 8 (First Series) 270
Meditation 16 (First Series) 271
Meditation 22 (First Series) 272
Meditation 38 (First Series) 273
Meditation 42 (First Series) 275
Meditation 26 (Second Series) 276
Meditation 150 (Second Series) 277
God's Determinations 278
The Preface 278
The Soul's Groan to Christ for Succor 279
Christ's Reply 280
Upon Wedlock, and Death of Children 283
Upon a Wasp Chilled with Cold 284
Huswifery 285
A Fig for Thee, Oh! Death 286
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author and Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAMUEL SEWALL (1652–1730)</td>
<td>From The Diary of Samuel Sewall</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Selling of Joseph: A Memorial</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTON MATHER (1663–1728)</td>
<td>The Wonders of the Invisible World</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[A People of God in the Devil's Territories]</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[The Trial of Martha Carrier]</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magnalia Christi Americana</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Galeacus Secundus: The Life of William Bradford, Esq., Governor of Plymouth Colony</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nehemias Americanus: The Life of John Winthrop, Esq., Governor of the Massachusetts Colony</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT CALEF (1648–1719)</td>
<td>More Wonders of the Invisible World Part II</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Letter to Mr. Cotton Mather</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Account of Margaret Rule</td>
<td>338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;A NOTABLE EXPLOIT&quot;: HANNAH DUSTAN'S CAPTIVITY AND REVENGE</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAMUEL SEWALL: Diary, April 29 and May 12, 1697</td>
<td>344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTTON MATHER: A Notable Exploit: Dux Fæmina Facti</td>
<td>344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JONATHAN CARVER: From Travels through the Interior Parts of North America</td>
<td>347</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER: The Mother's Revenge</td>
<td>348</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HENRY DAVID THOREAU: From A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers</td>
<td>350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARAH JOSEPHA HALE: The Father's Choice</td>
<td>352</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE NEW-ENGLAND PRIMER (1690)</td>
<td>353</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>357</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>366</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARAH KEMBLE KNIGHT (1666–1727)</td>
<td>368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Private Journal of a Journey from Boston to New York</td>
<td>368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October the Third</td>
<td>368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October the Sixth</td>
<td>372</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS

Saturday, October the Seventh 372
From December the Sixth 376
January the Sixth 377

WILLIAM BYRD (1674–1744)
From The Secret Diary of William Byrd of Westover, 1710–1712 379

JONATHAN EDWARDS (1703–1758)
Personal Narrative 386
On Sarah Pierpont 396
Sarah Edwards’s Narrative 397
A Divine and Supernatural Light 404
Letter to Rev. Dr. Benjamin Colman (May 30, 1735) 417
[The Great Awakening] 417
Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God 425

NATIVE AMERICANS: CONTACT AND CONFLICT 437

PONTIAC: Speech at Detroit 438

SAMSON OCCUM: From A Short Narrative of My Life 440

THOMAS JEFFERSON: Chief Logan’s speech, from Notes on the State of Virginia 443

RED JACKET: Speech to the U.S. Senate 445

TÉCUMSEH: Speech to the Osages 447

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (1706–1790)
The Way to Wealth 451
Rules by Which a Great Empire May Be Reduced to a Small One 457
Information to Those Who Would Remove to America 463
Remarks Concerning the Savages of North America 468
The Autobiography 472

JOHN WOOLMAN (1720–1772)
The Journal of John Woolman 588
[Early Life and Vocation] 588

J. HECTOR ST. JOHN DE CRÉVECŒUR (1735–1813)
Letters from an American Farmer 596
From Letter III. What Is an American 596
From Letter IX. Description of Charles-Town 605
From Letter X. On Snakes; and on the Humming Bird 610
From Letter XII. Distresses of a Frontier Man 611
CONTENTS:  /  xiii

JOHN ADAMS (1735–1826) and ABIGAIL ADAMS (1744–1818) 616
The Letters of John and Abigail Adams 617
Abigail Adams to John Adams (August 19, 1774) [Classical Parallels] 617
John Adams to Abigail Adams (September 16, 1774) [Prayers at the Congress] 618
John Adams to Abigail Adams (July 23, 1775) [Dr. Franklin] 619
John Adams to Abigail Adams (October 29, 1775) [Prejudice in Favor of New England] 620
Abigail Adams to John Adams (November 27, 1775) [The Building Up a Great Empire] 621
John Adams to Abigail Adams (July 3, 1776) [These Colonies Are Free and Independent States] 623
John Adams to Abigail Adams (July 3, 1776) [Reflections on the Declaration of Independence] 624
Abigail Adams to John Adams (July 14, 1776) [The Declaration. Smallpox. The Grey Horse] 625
John Adams to Abigail Adams (July 20, 1776) [Do My Friends Think I Have Forgotten My Wife and Children?] 627
Abigail Adams to John Adams (July 21, 1776) [Smallpox. The Proclamation for Independence Read Aloud] 627

THOMAS PAINE (1737–1809) 629
Common Sense 630
Introduction 630
From III. Thoughts on the Present State of American Affairs 631
The Crisis, No. 1 637
The Age of Reason 643
Chapter I. The Author's Profession of Faith 643
Chapter II. Of Missions and Revelations 644
Chapter XI. Of the Theology of the Christians, and the True Theology 646

THOMAS JEFFERSON (1743–1826) 649
The Autobiography of Thomas Jefferson 651
From The Declaration of Independence 651
Notes on the State of Virginia 657
Query V. Cascades [Natural Bridge] 657
Query VI. Productions Mineral, Vegetable and Animal 658
Query XVII. Religion 660
Query XIX. Manufactures 664

THE FEDERALIST 665
No. 1 [Alexander Hamilton] 666
No. 10 [James Madison] 669

OLAUDAH EQUIANO (1745?–1797) 674
From The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavas Vassa, the African, Written by Himself 675
From Chapter I 675
Chapter II 677
### CONTENTS

From Chapter III 687  
From Chapter IV 689  
From Chapter V 693  
From Chapter VI 697  
From Chapter VII 705

**WOMEN'S POETRY: FROM MANUSCRIPT TO PRINT** 710

**JANE COLMAN TURELL** 711  
To My Muse; December 29, 1725 711  
[Lines on Childbirth] 712

**ANNIS BOUDINOT STOCKTON** 713  
To my Burrissa— 713  
An ode on the birth day . . . of George Washington 714

**SARAH WENTWORTH MORTON** 715  
The African Chief 716  
Stanzas to a Husband Recently United 717

**MERCY OTIS WARREN** 718  
A Thought on the Inestimable Blessing of Reason 719  
[Prologue for Lines] To a Patriotic Gentleman 720

**ANN ELIZA BLEECKER** 721  
On the Immensity of Creation 721  
To Miss M. V. W. 722

**MARGARETTA FAUGÈRES** 723  
To Aribert. October, 1790 723

**JUDITH SARGENT MURRAY (1751–1820)** 724  
On the Equality of the Sexes 726  
The Gleaner 733  
Chapter XI 733  
[History of Miss Wellwood] 733

**PHILIP FRENEAU (1752–1832)** 742  
On the Emigration to America and Peopling the Western Country 743  
The Wild Honey Suckle 744  
The Indian Burying Ground 745  
To Sir Toby 746  
On Mr. Paine's Rights of Man 748  
On the Religion of Nature 749  
On Observing a Large Red-Streak Apple 750

**PHILLIS WHEATLEY (ca. 1753–1784)** 751  
On Being Brought from Africa to America 752  
To Maeacenas 753  
To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth 754
To the University of Cambridge, in New England 755
On the Death of the Rev. Mr. George Whitefield, 1770 756
Thoughts on the Works of Providence 757
To S.M., a Young African Painter, on Seeing His Works 760
To His Excellency General Washington 761
Letters 763
  To John Thornton (April 21, 1772) 763
  To Rev. Samson Occom (February 11, 1774) 763
ROYALL TYLER (1757–1826) 764
  The Contrast 765
HANNAH WEBSTER FOSTER (1758–1840) 806
  The Coquette; or, The History of Eliza Wharton 807
TABITHA TENNEY (1762–1837) 905
  Female Quixotism 905
    Book I 905
    Chapter IX 905
    Chapter XIV 912
    Chapter XV 918
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHIES A1
PERMISSIONS ACKNOWLEDGMENTS A13
INDEX A15