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978-0-521-84325-6 - The Cambridge Introduction to the Nineteenth-Century American Novel

Gregg Crane

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*The Cambridge Introduction to the
Nineteenth-Century American Novel*

Stowe, Hawthorne, Melville, and Twain: these are just a few of the world-class novelists of nineteenth-century America. The nineteenth-century American novel was a highly fluid form, constantly evolving in response to the turbulent events of the period and emerging as a key component in American identity, growth, expansion, and the Civil War. Gregg Crane tells the story of the American novel from its beginnings in the early republic to the end of the nineteenth century. Treating the famous and many less well-known works, Crane discusses the genre's major figures, themes, and developments. He analyzes the different types of American fiction – romance, sentimental fiction, and the realist novel – in detail, while the historical context is explained in relation to how novelists explored the changing world around them. This comprehensive and stimulating introduction will enhance students' experience of reading and studying the whole canon of American fiction.

Gregg Crane is Associate Professor of English at the University of Michigan.

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521603997

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First published 2007

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Crane, Gregg D. (Gregg David)

The Cambridge Introduction to the Nineteenth-Century American Novel / Gregg Crane.

p. cm. – (Cambridge introductions to literature)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-0-521-84325-6 (hardback)

ISBN-10: 0-521-84325-1 (hardback)

ISBN-13: 978-0-521-60399-7 (pbk.)

ISBN-10: 0-521-60399-4 (pbk.)

1. American fiction – 19th century – History and criticism. 2. Literary form – History – 19th century. 3. Literature and history – United States. 4. Popular literature – United States – History and criticism. 5. National characteristics, American, in literature.

I. Title. II. Series.

PS377.C73 2007

813'.409 – dc22

2007014638

ISBN 978-0-521-84325-6 hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-60399-7 paperback

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For Robert David Crane and Barbara Gregg Crane

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Acknowledgments

For their counsel and encouragement, I am indebted to Sara Blair, George Bornstein, Jonathan Freedman, John Kucich, Kerry Larson, Robert Levine, Dianne Sadoff, and Eric Sundquist. I also wish to express my gratitude for the many thoughtful revision suggestions made by John Whittier-Ferguson and Samuel Otter. From the book proposal through to final revisions, Ross Posnock and Cindy Weinstein have generously helped me with indispensable advice and critique. Leslie Ford deserves special thanks for her meticulous and insightful appraisal of the manuscript. And I want to acknowledge and thank my daughter, Zoe, for our ongoing conversation about the ingredients of a good story.

While writing this book, I have frequently found myself thinking about pedagogy and the alchemy of excitement and knowledge that characterizes good teaching. This train of thought always seems to conclude with some memory of my parents. Over the years, I have been in many classrooms but none more inspiring than those of my mother and father. I know of no better teachers.