

AMERICAN LITERATURE IN TRANSITION,
1770–1828

This volume presents a complex portrait of the United States of America grappling with the trials of national adolescence. Topics include (but are not limited to): the dynamics of language and power, the treachery of memory, the lived experience of racial and economic inequality, the aesthetics of Indigeneity, the radical possibilities of disability, the fluidity of gender and sexuality, the depth and culture-making power of literary genre, the history of poetics, the cult of performance, and the hidden costs of foodways. Taken together, the essays offer a vision of a vibrant, contradictory, and conflicted early U.S. Republic resistant to consensus accountings and poised to inform new and better origin stories for the polity to come.

WILLIAM HUNTING HOWELL is Associate Professor of English at Boston University. He is the author of *Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015) and the coeditor (with Megan E. Walsh) of Frank J. Webb's *The Garies and Their Friends* (Broadview Press, 2016). His essays have appeared in *American Literature*, *The William & Mary Quarterly*, *Early American Studies*, *Common-place*, and *Avidly*, among others.

GRETA LAFLEUR is Associate Professor of American Studies at Yale University. LaFleur is the author of *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018). Her writing appears in *Early American Literature*, *Early American Studies*, *American Quarterly*, *American Literature*, and on the *Los Angeles Review of Books* and *Public Books* websites.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-47586-0 — American Literature in Transition, 1770–1828
Edited by William Hunting Howell, Greta LaFleur
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE
IN TRANSITION

Editor

Cody Marrs, University of Georgia

Nineteenth-Century American Literature in Transition provides an omnibus account of American literature and its ever-evolving field of study. Emphasizing the ways in which American literature has been in transition ever since its founding, this revisionary series examines four phases of American literary history, focusing on the movements, forms, and media that developed from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century. The mutable nature of American literature is explored throughout these volumes, which consider a diverse and dynamic set of authors, texts, and methods. Encompassing the full range of today's literary scholarship, this series is an essential guide to the study of nineteenth-century American literature and culture.

Books in the series

American Literature in Transition, 1770–1828 edited by WILLIAM HUNTING
HOWELL & GRETA LAFLEUR

American Literature in Transition, 1820–1860 edited by JUSTINE MURISON

American Literature in Transition, 1851–1877 edited by CODY MARRS

American Literature in Transition, 1876–1910 edited by LINDSAY RECKSON

AMERICAN LITERATURE IN
TRANSITION, 1770–1828

EDITED BY
WILLIAM HUNTING HOWELL
Boston University

GRETA LAFLEUR
Yale University



Cambridge University Press & Assessment
 978-1-108-47586-0 — American Literature in Transition, 1770–1828
 Edited by William Hunting Howell, Greta LaFleur
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
 103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
 It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
 education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108475860
 DOI: 10.1017/9781108675239

© Cambridge University Press 2022

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
 and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
 no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
 permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2022

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

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Howell, William Hunting, editor. | LaFleur, Greta, 1981- editor.
 TITLE: American literature in transition, 1770–1828 / edited by William Hunting Howell, Greta
 LaFleur.
 DESCRIPTION: Cambridge ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2022. | SERIES:
 Nineteenth-century American literature in transition ; volume 1 | Includes bibliographical
 references and index.
 IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2021060661 (print) | LCCN 2021060662 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108475860
 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108469180 (paperback) | ISBN 9781108675239 (epub)
 SUBJECTS: LCSH: American literature—Colonial period, ca. 1600–1775—History and criticism. |
 American literature—1783–1850—History and criticism. | Literature and society—United States—
 History—18th century. | Literature and society—United States—History—19th century. | BISAC:
 LITERARY CRITICISM / American / General
 CLASSIFICATION: LCC PS193 .A45 2022 (print) | LCC PS193 (ebook) | DDC 810.9/002—dc23/eng/
 20220208
 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021060661>
 LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021060662>

ISBN 978-1-108-47586-0 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy
 of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication
 and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain,
 accurate or appropriate.

Contents

<i>List of Contributors</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Series Preface</i>	xiii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiv
I Introduction: “Transitions”	I
<i>William Hunting Howell and Greta LaFleur</i>	
PART I FORM AND GENRE	
2 The Law of Form and the Form of the Law	19
<i>Matthew Garrett</i>	
3 The Statesman’s Address	34
<i>Sandra M. Gustafson</i>	
4 Vocabularies and Other Indigenous-Language Texts	52
<i>Sean P. Harvey</i>	
5 The Genteel Novel in the Early United States	75
<i>Thomas Koenigs</i>	
6 The State of Our Union: Comedy in the Post-Revolutionary US Theater	93
<i>Heather S. Nathans</i>	
7 “To assume her Language as my own”: The Revival Hymn and the Evangelical Poetess in the Early Republic	112
<i>Wendy Raphael Roberts</i>	
8 “Ambiguities and Little Secrets”: Taste-Making and the Rise of the American Cookbook	127
<i>Elizabeth Hopwood</i>	

PART II NETWORKS

- 9 Modern Bigotry: The War for the Ohio, the Whiskey Rebellion, and the Settler Colonial Imagination of the Early Republic 145
John Mac Kilgore
- 10 “This Politick Salvage”: Defining an Early Native American Literary Aesthetics 165
Drew Lopezina
- 11 Logics of Exchange and the Beginnings of US Hispanophone Literature 188
Emily García
- 12 The Emigrationist Turn in Black Anti-Colonizationist Sentiment 204
Kirsten Lee
- 13 The Black Child, the Colonial Orphan, and Early Republican Visions of Freedom 231
Anna Mae Duane

PART III METHODS FOR LIVING

- 14 The Affective Postwar 251
Michelle Sizemore
- 15 Revolutionary Lives: Memoir Writing and Meaning Making during the American Revolution 268
Michael A. McDonnell and Marama Whyte
- 16 Literature of Poverty and Labor 288
Lori Merish
- 17 Neuroqueering the Republic: The Case of Charles Brockden Brown’s *Ormond* 309
Sari Altschuler
- 18 A Queer Crip Method for Early American Studies 327
Don James McLaughlin

- Index* 353

Contributors

SARI ALTSCHULER is Associate Professor of English and Director of the Health, Humanities, and Society Initiative at Northeastern University. She is the author of *The Medical Imagination: Literature and Health in the Early United States* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018) and coeditor of *Keywords for Health Humanities* (under contract with New York University Press). Her essays have appeared in *Early American Literature*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *American Literature*, *American Literary History*, *PMLA*, and the *Lancet*.

ANNA MAE DUANE, Associate Professor of English at the University of Connecticut, is the author or editor of five books that explore the intersection of race, age, and national identity. Her most recent book, *Educated for Freedom: The Incredible Story of Two Fugitive Schoolboys Who Grew Up to Change a Nation* (New York University Press, 2020), follows the lives of James McCune Smith and Henry Highland Garnet from their attendance at the New York African Free School through their adult accomplishments in literature, medicine, and oratory.

EMILY GARCÍA is Associate Professor of English and Latina/o/x and Latin American Studies at Northeastern Illinois University. Her research has appeared in *Early American Literature* and the collection *The Latino Nineteenth Century*, edited by Jesse Alemán and Rodrigo Lazo.

MATTHEW GARRETT is author of *Episodic Poetics: Politics and Literary Form after the Constitution* (Oxford University Press, 2014) and editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Narrative Theory* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), and his essays have appeared in *American Literary History*, *American Quarterly*, *Critical Inquiry*, *ELH*, the *Journal of Cultural Economy*, and other journals and edited collections. He teaches English and American Studies at Wesleyan University, where he directs the Certificate in Social, Cultural, and Critical Theory.

SANDRA M. GUSTAFSON is a longtime member of the English faculty at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of works on American literature and culture including *Imagining Deliberative Democracy in the Early American Republic* (University of Chicago Press, 2011), *Eloquence Is Power: Oratory and Performance in Early America* (University of North Carolina Press, 2000), and essays on William Apess, James Fenimore Cooper, Jonathan Edwards, and Margaret Fuller. She is the editor of *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, Vol. A (9th edition) and advisory editor of the MLA-affiliated journal *Early American Literature*, as well as the coeditor of *Cultural Narratives: Textuality and Performance in American Culture before 1900* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2010), and guest editor of a special issue of the *Journal of the Early Republic* on political writing and literature. A faculty affiliate of Notre Dame's Center for Civil and Human Rights and a faculty fellow at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, she is completing a book about the nineteenth-century American novel and the early peace movement.

SEAN P. HARVEY is Associate Professor of History at Seton Hall University. His publications include *Native Tongues: Colonialism and Race from Encounter to the Reservation* (Harvard University Press, 2015) and "Native Views of Native Languages: Communication and Kinship in Eastern North America, ca. 1800–1830," *The William & Mary Quarterly* (October 2018). An earlier article, "'Must not their languages be savage and barbarous like them': Philology, Indian Removal, and Race Science," *Journal of the Early Republic*, won the Ralph D. Gray prize for best article from the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic in 2011. He served as Co-Editor of Reviews for the *Journal of the Early Republic* from 2014 to 2017. He is currently working on a book-length project on Albert Gallatin and the US early republic in the Atlantic world.

ELIZABETH HOPWOOD is a Lecturer in English at Loyola University Chicago, where she also directs the Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities. Her research focuses on long nineteenth-century foodways in the space of the United States and the Atlantic, digital archives, and digital humanities design.

WILLIAM HUNTTING HOWELL is Associate Professor of English at Boston University. He is the author of *Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States* (University of Pennsylvania

List of Contributors

ix

Press, 2015) and the coeditor (with Megan E. Walsh) of Frank J. Webb's *The Garies and Their Friends* (Broadview Press, 2016). His essays have appeared in *American Literature*, *The William & Mary Quarterly*, *Early American Studies*, *Common-Place*, and *Avidly*, among others.

JOHN MAC KILGORE is Associate Professor of English at Florida State University. JM's first book, *Mania for Freedom: American Literatures of Enthusiasm from the Revolution to the Civil War* (University of North Carolina Press, 2016), is a study of "political enthusiasm" and its literatures – texts devoted to mobilizing action against tyranny and supporting inspired cultures of democratic dissent. JM is currently working on two book projects: one on the literature of Old Florida and the contemporary politics of public memory, another on the anti-capitalist literary history of the United States, 1776–1876.

THOMAS KOENIGS is Associate Professor of English at Scripps College in Claremont, California. He is the author of *Founded in Fiction: The Uses of Fiction in the Early United States* (Princeton University Press, 2021).

GRETA LAFLEUR is Associate Professor of American Studies at Yale University. LaFleur is author of *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018). LaFleur is also the editor (with Kyla Schuller) of a special issue of *American Quarterly*, "Origins of Biopolitics in the Americas"; the editor, with Benjamin Kahan, of a special issue of *GLQ* on "The Science of Sex 'Itself'"; and the editor, with Anna Klosowska and Masha Raskolnikov, of *Trans Historical: Gender Plurality before the Modern* (Cornell University Press, 2021).

KIRSTEN LEE is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research and teaching interests include early African American literature, class struggle, abolition, and gender and sexuality. She is currently completing a dissertation on the meaning and location of borders and borderlands in long nineteenth-century African American literature.

DREW LOPENZINA is an Associate Professor of English at Old Dominion University and teaches in the intersections of Early American and Native American literatures. He is the author of three books: *The Routledge Introduction to Native American Literature* (Routledge, 2020), *Through an Indian's Looking Glass: A Cultural Biography of William Apess, Pequot* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2017), and *Red Ink: Native Americans Picking up the Pen in the Colonial Period* (SUNY Press, 2012).

MICHAEL A. MCDONNELL is Professor of History at the University of Sydney and the author of *Masters of Empire: Great Lakes Indians and the Making of America* (Hill & Wang, Macmillan, 2015) and *The Politics of War: Race, Class, and Conflict in Revolutionary Virginia* (Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and University of North Carolina Press, 2007). He also is an editor or coeditor of three other works on the Age of Revolution, including *Facing Empire: Indigenous Experiences in a Revolutionary Age*, with Kate Fullagar (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018), and *Remembering the Revolution: Memory, History, and Nation-Making from the Revolution to the Civil War*, with Frances Clarke, Clare Corbould, and W. Fitzhugh Brundage (University of Massachusetts Press, 2013). McDonnell is currently at work on several projects, including an examination of the place of the American Revolution in Black American life (with Clare Corbould), a study of Revolutionary War memoirs written by lower-class veterans of the conflict, and a three-volume *Cambridge History of the American Revolution*.

DON JAMES MCLAUGHLIN is an assistant professor of nineteenth-century and early American literature at the University of Tulsa. His research focuses on literary movements in the Americas, genealogies of queer health, the medical humanities, disability studies, the LGBTQ past, and the history of emotions. His writing has been published in *American Literature*, *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*, and *Literature and Medicine*.

LORI MERISH is Professor of English at Georgetown University. She is the author of *Sentimental Materialism: Gender, Commodity Culture, and Nineteenth-Century American Literature* (Duke University Press, 2000) and *Archives of Labor: Working Class Women and Literary Culture in the Antebellum United States* (Duke University Press, 2017). She is currently writing a book about cultural depictions of poverty and the poor in nineteenth-century American literature, performance, and photography.

HEATHER S. NATHANS is the Chair of the Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, and the Alice and Nathan Gantcher Professor in Judaic Studies at Tufts University. Publications include *Early American Theatre from the Revolution to Thomas Jefferson* (Cambridge University Press, 2003), *Slavery and Sentiment on the American Stage, 1787–1861* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), and *Hideous Characters and Beautiful Pagans: Performing Jewish Identity on the Antebellum*

List of Contributors

xi

American Stage (University of Michigan Press, 2017), which received the 2018 Barnard Hewitt Award (ASTR) and the John W. Frick Book Award (ATDS). In 2018, Nathans also received the Betty Jean Jones Award for teaching and mentorship from ATDS. Nathans is the editor of the *Studies in Theatre History and Culture* series from the University of Iowa Press.

WENDY RAPHAEL ROBERTS is Associate Professor of English at the University at Albany, SUNY, and author of *Awakening Verse: The Poetics of Early American Evangelicalism* (Oxford University Press, 2020). Her research on revival poetry has been supported by grants from the American Antiquarian Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Huntington Library, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium.

MICHELLE SIZEMORE is Associate Professor of English at the University of Kentucky. She is the author of *American Enchantment: Rituals of the People in the Post-Revolutionary World* (Oxford University Press, 2018). Her articles have appeared in *Studies in American Fiction*, *Legacy*, and other venues. She is currently working on two book projects. *Democratic Dispositions* examines the temperaments, moods, and tendencies of nineteenth-century American political life. *Figures* explores the literature and culture of mathematics in the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Atlantic world.

MARAMA WHYTE received her PhD from the University of Sydney in 2020. She is now a research associate at the University of Melbourne and a research assistant on the Australian Research Council Discovery Project *War Stories: The Meaning of the American Revolution* at the University of Sydney. She is currently working on her first book, which examines feminist activism by women journalists in the United States during the 1970s.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-47586-0 — American Literature in Transition, 1770–1828
Edited by William Hunting Howell, Greta LaFleur
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Series Preface

In the past few decades, as American literary studies has changed and evolved, the long nineteenth century has proven to be a crucial pivot point. *American Literature: The Long Nineteenth Century* captures the dynamism of both this critical moment and the historical period it engages. Emphasizing the ways in which American literature has remained in transition ever since its founding, these four volumes comprise a significant act of literary-historical revisionism. As suggested by the overlapping dates (i.e., 1770–1828, 1820–1860, 1851–1877, 1876–1910), these volumes challenge traditional ways of periodizing literature. This series argues for the contingency and provisionality of literary history in general and of nineteenth-century American literary history in particular. The transitional and mutable nature of American literature is explored throughout these volumes, which address a wide range of topics, methods, and areas of interest, and examine the myriad forms, movements, and media that developed across this era. By drawing together leading and emerging scholars and encompassing the full range of today's American literary scholarship, this series provides an omnibus account of nineteenth-century American literature as well as its ever-evolving field of study.

Acknowledgments

[GL & WHH:] First and foremost, we want to thank the many people whose consolidated efforts made this volume – and the broader series of which it is a part – possible. We thank especially General Editor Cody Marrs, whose work to herd this volume and its three companions into production was exemplary. His deft touch became even more important with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, which made all of our jobs and lives so much more difficult. We also want to thank Lindsay Reckson and Justine Murison, the editors of two of the other *American Literature in Transition: The Long Nineteenth Century* volumes, who were, predictably, thoughtful and cheery fellow travelers through this process. At Cambridge University Press, we thank Ray Ryan and Edgar Mendez, who did the indispensable work of getting our contributors their contracts and ushering the series into production.

With respect to this volume, in particular, we would like to thank all of our contributors – those who were ultimately able to get us their submissions, and those who were not. As editors, it was an enormous pleasure to work with this sharp and excited group of people, and what we gained from it far exceeds the capacity of the pages that follow.

We also want to thank the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Yale University, whose Fund for Lesbian and Gay Studies Fellowship supported editing costs that made it possible for this volume to become the best version of itself. Relatedly, we thank Angela Terrill for her excellent (and very efficient!) work on this project; it is a better and cleaner manuscript for her efforts.

[GL:] Many thanks are due to my colleagues in the Department of American Studies at Yale University, as well as to my colleagues in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century studies elsewhere who have shaped

Acknowledgments

xv

my understanding of this era and these fields. I also want to acknowledge Kyla Schuller, Anna Klosowska, Masha Raskolnikov, Benjy Kahan, and Serena Bassi – all current and former colleagues on editing projects – whose collaboration has helped me identify my priorities in editorial work, itself a strange and specific genre of intellectual labor. Finally, the bulk of my work on this project landed squarely in the year when I went up for tenure and fortunately received it, and I thus want to thank all of my friends and family members who stuck around despite my stress and complaints.

[WHH:] For good advice and peerlessly sympathetic ears throughout the process, I would like to thank Cathy Kelly, Kasey Evans, Coleman Hutchison, Jay A. Grossman, Tara Bynum, Chris Hunter, and Joe Shapiro. I would also like to acknowledge the unwavering support of my friends and colleagues in the English Department and the American and New England Studies Program at Boston University. And I would like to thank my parents for doing all the parenting things that seem straightforward until you yourself actually have to *do* them. Not unrelatedly: Matthias James McDonough Howell and Edgar Thomas McDonough Howell both came into this world between the start of this project and its finish; I thank them for their forbearance, their indomitability, and their contagious wonder. Lastly, endlessly: Marie Satya McDonough for everything.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-47586-0 — American Literature in Transition, 1770–1828
Edited by William Hunting Howell, Greta LaFleur
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)
