Introduction: The Role of Science and Technology in the Creation of American National Identity 1

1. Domestic Science: Learning, Observing, and Promoting Science as American Enterprise 8

2. Flights of Imagination: Air Balloons and National Ambitions 39

3. Engines of Change: Machines Drive American Industry 71


5. Internal Improvements: Phrenology as a Tool for Reform 124

6. Fair America: Promoting American Invention 159

Conclusion: The First American Century 188

Acknowledgments 199

Notes 201

Bibliography 255

Index 281