

Contents

Abbreviations	xii
Introduction	1
1 The Transatlantic Transcendentalists: “Natural Supernaturalism” and <i>Nature</i>	8
2 Self-Denial and Self-Reliance: Heroes and Representative Men	46
3 Past and Present: England and America	97
Conclusion	160
Chronology	175
Notes	177
Index	189

I have not at any time forgotten you, be that justice done the unfortunate: and tho' I see well enough what a great deep cleft divides us, in our ways of practically looking at this world, —I see also (as probably you do yourself) where the rock-strata, miles deep, unite again; and the two poor souls are at one. Poor devils! —Nay if there were no point of agreement at all, and I were more intolerant of “ways of thinking” than I even am, —yet has not the man Emerson, from old years, been a Human Friend to me? Can I ever forget, or think otherwise than lovingly of the man Emerson?

—Carlyle to Emerson, 19 July 1850

Let it be an alliance of two large, formidable natures, mutually beheld, mutually feared, before yet they recognize the deep identity which, beneath these disparities, unites them.

—Emerson, “Friendship”