A great many people have provoked, encouraged, and sustained me throughout the writing of this book. It was in William Connolly’s seminars at Johns Hopkins University that I developed and extended my thinking on matters corporeal, and his contributions no doubt exceed the many particulars of which I am aware. I am also grateful to Richard Flathman, whose sharp advice and criticism spurred me on to closer reflection at the outset of the project. Neil Hertz provided important guidance and inspiration in later stages. No less crucial has been the influence and support of many friends and colleagues at Johns Hopkins and elsewhere. With the caution that no list can be complete, I would especially like to recognize the following individuals: Jason Frank, Casiano Hacker-Cordon, T. L. Popejoy, Jen Thomas, Julia Toews, Isabella Winkler, Alan Wood, and James Yamasaki.
Sovereign Nations, Carnal States