american studies

an interdisciplinary journal sponsored by the Midcontinent American Studies Association and the University of Kansas

stuart levine, editor

editorial board

hamilton cravens, History, Iowa State University, Chairman elizabeth schultz, English, University of Kansas, Associate Editor

hamilton cravens, History, Iowa State University (1976) charles c. eldredge, History of Art, University of Kansas (1977) jimmie l. franklin, History, Eastern Illinois University (1977) chadwick hansen, American Civilization, University of Iowa (1980)

theodore r. hovet, English, Northern Iowa University (1979) william c. pratt, History, University of Nebraska-Omaha (1978) peter c. rollins, English, Oklahoma State University (1978) max j. skidmore, Political Science, Southwest Missouri State University (1979)

officers of the masa

president: Max J. Skidmore, Political Science, Southwest Missouri State University

vice-president: Forrest Berghorn, American Studies, University of Kansas

executive secretary: Norman H. Hostetler, American Studies, University of Nebraska

editor: Stuart Levine, American Studies, University of Kansas

business manager: N. Donald Cecil graduate assistant: Linna Funk Place

Copyright © Midcontinent American Studies Association, 1976. Address business correspondence to the Business Manager and all editorial correspondence to the Editor. Contributors should submit two copies including the ribbon copy, and enclose return postage.



ON THE COVER: Melville's "Ship of Fools," adapted by William Norris and Dennis Orner from Sebastian Brant's "Das Narren Schyff."

KEY:

1. Whitman

5. Abbott Lawrence

2. Poe

6. Cooper

3. Emerson

7. Thoreau

4. Fanny Kemble

8. Hawthorne

9 Melville



contents

volume seventeen

the washington legend 1865-1900: the heroic image in flux	
howard n. rabinowitz	5
abbott lawrence in the confidence man: american success or american failure? william norris	25
on not making it in america jules zanger	39
the tolstoyan episode in american social thought harry walsh	49
truth or consequences? david lindsay	69
review essays	
twentieth century women alan graebner	79
culture and the new deal jannelle warren-findley	81
reviews	83
books received	91
masa bulletin	4

number one