

# Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
1 Introduction	I
2 <i>The Contrast</i> by Royall Tyler	35
3 Primary Documents	101
A. Arts and Literature in Post-Revolutionary America	101
1. The Former, Present, and Future Prospects of America (1786)	101
2. The Dabblers (1788)	102
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	103
B. Virtues and Vices of the Theater	104
1. Effects of the Stage on the Manners of a People (1792)	104
2. Anti-Theater Petition (1793)	106
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	108
C. Lord Chesterfield and His Critics	109
1. The Art of Pleasing Men and Women (1747)	109
2. Mercy Otis Warren on Chesterfield's Letters (1779)	110
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	113
D. The Follies of Fashion	114
1. For the Females (1787)	114
2. Fantastical, Preposterous Fashions [of] Gentlemen (1787)	116
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	118
E. The Ideal Wife	118
1. On Matrimonial Obedience (1792)	119
2. Proper Conduct of the Wife Towards Her Husband (1804)	120
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	122
F. The Ideal Husband	123
1. Panegyric on the Marriage State (1786)	123
2. How to Prolong the Happiness of the Marriage Union (1787)	124
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	125

G. Educating American Youth	126
1. Plan for the Establishment of Public Schools (1786)	126
2. The Progress of a Countryman (1787)	129
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	130
H. The Meaning of Equality	131
1. The Will of the People (1792)	131
2. The Natural Aristocracy (1813)	135
<i>Discussion Questions</i>	137
<i>Suggested Reading</i>	139
<i>Index</i>	143
<i>About the Author</i>	147

## Illustrations

Advertisement for <i>The Contrast</i> , 1787	3
Frontispiece from the <i>Columbian Magazine</i> , 1789	13
<i>The Declaration of Independence</i> , by John Trumbull, 1787	16
<i>Royall Tyler</i>	19
<i>Plan of the City of New York</i> , 1789	23
<i>George Washington</i> , by Jean-Antoine Houdon, 1785–1792	27
Title page from <i>The Contrast</i> , 1790	35
Frontispiece from <i>The Contrast</i> , 1790	97
<i>Miss Carolina Sullivan</i> , 1776	111
<i>The Toilet</i> , 1786	115
<i>A Morning Ramble, or, The Milliner's Shop</i> , 1782	117
<i>The Copley Family</i> , by John Singleton Copley, 1776–1777	127
<i>The Washington Family</i> , by Edward Savage, 1789–1796	127