

# CONTENTS



|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Preface and Acknowledgments                                     | ix  |
| Introduction  | i   |
| ONE Ambiguous Beginnings<br><i>1787–1801</i>                    | 7   |
| TWO The Many Meanings of Freedom<br><i>1800–1803</i>            | 18  |
| THREE “A State for White Men”<br><i>1803–1830</i>               | 42  |
| FOUR The Battle over the Color Line<br><i>1830–1839</i>         | 74  |
| FIVE The Struggle to Abolish the Color Line<br><i>1840–1849</i> | 115 |
| SIX Enforcing the Fugitive Slave Act<br><i>1803–1850</i>        | 157 |
| SEVEN The Fugitive Slave Crisis in the 1850s                    | 201 |
| EIGHT The Limits of Freedom                                     | 241 |
| Notes   | 263 |
| Selected Bibliography   | 327 |
| Index   | 357 |