Contents

List of figures ........................................ page vii
List of boxes ............................................. x
List of tables ........................................... xi
Preface .................................................. xiii

1 Introduction ........................................ 1
2 Distant beginnings: the first 3,000 years ...... 15
3 The Italians invent modern finance .......... 28
4 The rise of international financial capitalism: the seventeenth century ......................... 52
5 The “Big Bang” of financial capitalism: financing and re-financing the Mississippi and South Sea Companies, 1688–1720 ................. 72
6 The rise and spread of financial capitalism, 1720–1789 ........................................ 100
7 Financial innovations during the “birth of the modern,” 1789–1830: a tale of three revolutions ........................................ 134
8 British recovery and attempts to imitate in the US, France, and Germany, 1825–1850 .... 166
9 Financial globalization takes off: the spread of sterling and the rise of the gold standard, 1848–1879 ........................................ 190
10 The first global financial market and the classical gold standard, 1880–1914 ............ 210
11 The Thirty Years War and the disruption of international finance, 1914–1944 ........ 231
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References 313

Index 336