“Perkins has written a thorough and well-researched financial history of the early years of this country and their effect of the future development of the American economic system.” —Library Journal. “Perkins’s book is the best overview of American financial history from the eighteenth century, through the Revolution, and into the nineteenth century that we have. It provides a starting point for filling out our knowledge of the profound economic changes that occurred in the formative years of the United States and presents a stimulating and thought-provoking hypothesis to ponder.” —William