

Contents

Foreword ix

Preface xi

1. The Portuguese in the Atlantic 1
2. Western Europe: 1460–1560 15
3. Spain in America: The Sixteenth Century 37
4. Sixteenth-century Spain 56
5. Western Europe and the Atlantic 73
6. The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries:
Population, Prices and Incomes 88
7. Agriculture in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries 108
8. The Peopling of America 125
9. Spain in Decline 143
10. Latin America: The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries 157
11. The Rise of the Dutch Commercial Empire 176
12. England: The Untroubled Island 194
13. France: The Unsteady Giant 212
14. Capital, Credit and Financial Institutions 231
15. The Tropical Colonies in America 250
16. The British Mainland Colonies 264
17. France and England in the Eighteenth Century 288

18. France and England:	
Industrial Growth and Industrial Revolution	301
Maps	318
Select Bibliography	323
Index	341