

## *Contents*

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction i

- 1 Situating the Court: Institutional Structure, Jurisdictional Conflict, and the Rise of a New Conception of Commerce 16
- 2 The Court's Self-Conception as a Bastion of Virtue: Relational Contracting and a Community-Based Approach to Procedure 57
- 3 An Equity-Oriented View of Contract: The Court's Resolution of Disputes Concerning Sales, Employment, and Marriage 96
- 4 *Société* and Sociability: The Changing Structure of Business Associations and the Problem of Merchant Relations 141
- 5 A Crisis in Virtue: The Challenges of Negotiability and the Rise of a New Commercial Culture 188
- 6 Launching a National Campaign: The Administrative Monarchy and the Demands of *le Commerce* 238

*viii Contents*

Conclusion 286

Appendix 299

Notes 307

Index 375