

## CONTENTS

*Acknowledgments* xi

Introduction 3

1. The Colonial Years 16
2. Law and the Conditions of Agricultural Household Life,  
1750–1800 56
3. Law and the Founding of the American Republic I: Toward  
Independence and Republican Government 109
4. Law and the Founding of the American Republic II: From the  
Articles of Confederation to the Constitution 158
5. The Supreme Court Emerges 193
6. Law and Entrepreneurship, 1800–1850 245
7. Law and the Dissolution of the Union I: The Political Parties,  
Congress, and Slavery 292
8. Law and the Dissolution of the Union II: Slavery, the Constitution,  
and the Supreme Court 338
9. The Civil War: Setting the Stage 382
10. The Civil War: Legal Issues 426

*Notes* 485

*Index* 539