

CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. THE MEDICI BANK AND ITS INSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND	9
The Church's Usury Doctrine and the Business World	10
The Money-changers' Gild and the Medici Bank	14
The Florentine Catasto	21
Monetary Systems Used in the Medici Records	31
III. THE ANTECEDENTS AND THE EARLY YEARS OF THE MEDICI BANK UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF GIOVANNI DI BICCI, 1397-1429	35
IV. THE HEYDAY OF THE MEDICI BANK: COSIMO AT THE HELM, 1429-1464	53
V. THE LEGAL STATUS AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE MEDICI BANK	77
The Central Administration	77
Branch Management	86
Correspondence and Accounting Procedure	96
Time Deposits	100
VI. BANKING AND THE MONEY MARKET AT THE TIME OF THE MEDICI	108
VII. THE MEDICI AS MERCHANTS AND AS DEALERS IN ALUM AND IRON	142
The Venture Trade	142
The Alum Monopoly	152
The Iron Ore of Elba	164
VIII. THE MEDICI AS INDUSTRIAL ENTREPRENEURS	167

IX. THE MEDICI AND THE FINANCIAL BUSINESS OF THE PAPACY: THE ROME BRANCH OF THE MEDICI BANK	194
X. MEDICI ESTABLISHMENTS IN ITALY: THE TAVOLA IN FLORENCE AND THE FONDACO IN VENICE	225
Florence	225
Venice	240
XI. MEDICI ESTABLISHMENTS IN ITALY: THE BRANCHES IN NAPLES, MILAN, AND PISA	254
Naples	254
Milan	261
Pisa	275
XII. BRANCHES OF THE MEDICI BANK OUTSIDE ITALY: GENEVA, LYONS, AND AVIGNON	279
Geneva	279
Lyons	289
Avignon	311
XIII. MEDICI BRANCHES OUTSIDE ITALY: BRUGES AND LONDON	317
The Medici Bank in Bruges and London prior to 1451	317
The London Branch from 1451 to 1480	325
The Bruges Branch from 1451 to 1473	338
The Difficulties with Tommaso Portinari (1473-1481) and the Disastrous Liquidation of the Bruges and London Branches	346
XIV. THE DECLINE: 1464-1494	358
APPENDIX	377
Chronological List of the General Managers and Branch Managers of the Medici Bank	377
List of Dates and Events Important for the History of the Medici Bank	380
GENEALOGICAL TABLES	382
BIBLIOGRAPHY	391
NOTES	409
INDEX	485