

## CONTENTS

### *List of Tables and Figures*   vii

Preface. My Brief Life as a Price Historian	ix
1 The Tale of Chen Qide	1
2 Halcyon Days? The Wanli Price Regime	29
3 Silver, Prices, and Maritime Trade	69
4 The Famine Price of Grain	106
5 The Chongzhen Price Surge	138
Afterword: Climate and History	163

*Appendix A. Units of Measurement*   171

*Appendix B. Reign Eras of the Ming Dynasty, 1368–1644*   173

*Appendix C. Tables for Reference*   175

*Notes*   189

*Bibliography*   207

*Index*   223

