Contents

Acknowledgments	xiii
Abbreviations	xv
Overtures	1
Overture I	I
The Incorruptible Wise Man	
and the Value of Truth	I
The Price of Truth	5
Overture 2	10
The Priceless	10
Imposture and Transformation	11
Money and the Technical Order	14
Homo æconomicus	16
The Realm of Gift-Giving	17
PART I. MERCENARY FIGURES	
The Refusal of Mercenary Knowledge	23
 Plato and the Sophists' Money 	27
Hippias: Vanity and Venality	28
The Sophist: A New Kind of Scholar	33
The Question of Money	35
Experts or Merchants?	38
The Sophist and the Art of Angling	42
Socrates, the Master without Self-Interest	49
 The Figure of the Merchant in Western Tradition Plato and Aristotle: 	59
Keeping the Merchants Out of the City	61

viii Contents

The Merchant in the Indo-European System:	
Trifunctionality and Its Outcast	66
Shady Figures: Intermediaries and Substitutes	72
3. The Scandal of Profit and the Prohibition on	
Appropriating Time	77
Chrematistics: Aristotle and the Critique of Profit	79
The Natural Order (I): City and Subsistence	81
The Natural Order (II): Wealth and Property	82
Nature Diverted (I):	
Chrematistics and the Two Uses	85
Nature Diverted (II):	
Pleonexia, or the Unrestrained	
Desire for Money	89
The Price of Time	91
Theologians against Usurers	93
PART II. THE WORLD OF GIFT-GIVING	
The Master Who Gives and Gives Himself:	
Knowledge as Priceless	101
Aristotle: "Knowledge and Money Have No	
Common Measure"	102
The Gift and the Priceless	104
4. The Enigma of Ceremonial Gift Exchange	107
Problems and Misunderstandings	109
The Nature of Ceremonial Gift Exchange	
Is Not Economic	110
Ceremonial Gift-Giving Is Not a Moral Gesture	114
The Problem of Ceremonial Gift Exchange:	
What Mauss Teaches Us	116
"Total Social Fact" Revisited	117
The Three Gestures and the Paradox of Obligation	122
The Giver in the Thing Given	126
The Enigma of Ceremonial Gift Exchange:	
Giving, Challenging, and Binding	129

		Contents	ix
	The Symbolic Gesture	130	
	Generosity and Challenge	135	
	Free Obligation	138	
	Matrimonial Alliance: Lévi-Strauss's Analysis	141	
	Strangers and the Gift of Oneself:	·	
	Affirming and Overcoming Otherness	144	
	Sacra: Goods That Cannot Be Exchanged	148	
5.	The Age of Sacrifice	156	
	Critical Preliminaries	160	
	Nonsacrificial and Sacrificial Societies	163	
	Hunter-Gatherers and the Alliance	164	
	Agropastoral Societies and Sacrifice	169	
	Elements and Functions of Sacrifice	175	
	Elements:		
	Three Essential Protagonists of the Sacrifice	175	
	Functions: Four Good Reasons to Sacrifice	180	
	Sacrifice as Technogony	187	
	Raw and Cooked Worlds: Greece and India	189	
	Prometheus and the Cuisine of Sacrifice	189	
	India: Cooking Prajâpati	192	
	Why Sacrifice Faded Away	197	
6.	The Logic of Debt	202	
	Gift, Debt, and Sacrifice	204	
	The Ambiguous Lessons of Etymology	204	
	Debt of Reply, Debt of Dependence, and		
	Debt of Gratitude	207	
	Debt without Fault: Vedic Thought	212	
	Vindicatory Justice and Arbitrational Justice	214	
	Vengeance as Justice	214	
	Political Societies: Central Power and		
	Arbitrational Justice	218	
	Debt and Order of the World	226	
	Equilibrium and Reserve: The Debt of Life	226	
	Anaximander: Cosmic Debt	2.2.9	

x Contents

Rabelais: Panurge and His Praise of Debt	232
Modern Debt and Time	237
7. The Paradoxes of Grace	242
Preliminary Questions	244
Kharis and Polis: Grace Among the Greeks	246
Biblical Grace: The Favor of the Almighty	252
Seneca and the Ethics of Unconditional Giving	257
Toward Pure Giving: Expecting No Reciprocation	258
Critique of the Myth of the Three Graces,	
and the Priority Given to Intention	260
Unilateral Giving as Giving without Return:	
The Example of the Gods	264
Roman Grace and Christian Grace	266
Grace, Gift, and Capitalism	268
The Protestant Ethic and the Question of Grace:	
Weber and Troeltsch	269
Giving and the Religious Ethic of Fraternity	276
Catholic Ethic, Grace, and the Economy	281
PART III. JUSTICE IN EXCHANGES AND THE SPACE OF TRADE	
The Emergence of the Marketplace	291
8. Ceremonial Money and Commercial Money	295
Misunderstandings Regarding "Savage Money"	296
Mauss and "Archaic Money"	297
An Example of Ceremonial Money:	
The Are'are from the Solomon Islands	300
The Accounting of Gift Exchange	303
Characteristics of Commercial Money	306
Areas of Intersection between the	
Two Types of Exchange	308
9. Money: Equivalence, Justice, and Liberty	315
Aristotle: Money and Justice in Exchange	317
From the Old Reciprocity to Equalization	
through Currency	317

	Contents	хi
Koinōnia: Community of Interest and		
Reciprocal Need	324	
Civic Exchange or Commercial Exchange?	326	
The Universal Translator and the New Roads		
to Autonomy	331	
Money as Joker, or the Truly General Equivaler	nt 331	
Simmel: Monetary Exchange and the Process o	f	
Emancipation	333	
The Instrument of Liberty	335	
Contract and Social Bond	344	
10. Legitimate Figures of Commercial Exchange	350	
Rehabilitating the Sophists	351	
Aretē: The Acquiring of Excellence	352	
Areas of Competence and the Right		
to Compensation	356	
Legitimizing the Merchant: Montesquieu's		
"Sweet Commerce"	358	
Compensating the Author	363	
Printed Books: The Emergence of a Marketpla	ce 364	
Diderot, Kant, and the Value of Books	367	
Paying the Therapist:		
Freud's Argument on Money and Transferen	.ce 373	
Return/Exits	385	
Return	385	
Exit I	388	
Priceless Goods and the Risk of Corruption	388	
Exit 2	395	
The Requirement for Recognition and Dignity	395	
Notes	407	
Bibliography	441	