

Contents

List of Illustrations	vii
Explanation of Commonly Used Chinese Terms	ix
Acknowledgments	xiii
Foreword by Cormac Ó Gráda	xvii
Introduction	I
PART I • <i>Setting the Scene</i>	13
1. Shanxi, Greater China, and the Famine	15
2. Experiencing the Famine: The Hierarchy of Suffering in a Famine Song from Xiezhou	42
PART II • <i>Praise and Blame: Interpretive Frameworks of Famine Causation</i>	67
3. The Wrath of Heaven versus Human Greed	71
4. Qing Officialdom and the Politics of Famine	90
5. Views from the Outside: Science, Railroads, and Laissez-Faire Economics	114
6. Hybrid Voices: The Famine and Jiangnan Activism	131

PART III · <i>Icons of Starvation: Images, Myths, and Illusions</i>	157
7. Family and Gender in Famine	161
8. The “Feminization of Famine” and the Feminization of Nationalism	189
9. Eating Culture: Cannibalism and the Semiotics of Starvation, 1870–2001	211
Epilogue: New Tears for New Times; The Famine Revisited	235
Glossary of Chinese Characters	245
Notes	251
Bibliography	301
Index	319