Abstract:
In the period from the late seventeenth through the mid-nineteenth centuries, merchant exchanges were arguably the most important secular buildings in trading cities of the Atlantic world, raised by proud cities and their prosperous merchants as gathering places for businessmen and compendia of the varied adjunct facilities needed in foreign trade. This article examines the development of this building type in British port cities, using the examples of London, Bristol, Liverpool, Dublin, and Glasgow. The buildings themselves were often important exemplars in their communities of emerging architectural styles, such as Palladianism, Neoclassicism, and the Greek Revival, as well as new typologies for accommodating exchange-related activities. Functionally and financially the buildings had varied fortunes over the years, vicissitudes that reflected the rapidly changing nature and scale of trade.
as soon as they were listed. Before the first ship ever left the harbor, the SSC had its New Royal Exchange—The Plan which was ultimately accepted—Addison and Steele upon the Exchange—The Shops of the Second Exchange. In the year 1563 Sir Thomas Gresham, a munificent merchant of Lombard Street, who traded largely with Antwerp, carrying out a scheme of his father, offered the City to erect a Bourse at his own expense, if they would provide a suitable plot of ground; the great merchant's local pride having been hurt at seeing Antwerp provided with a stately Exchange, and. Thomas became Chancellor of Lichfield, the other three brothers turned merchants, and two of them were knighted by Henry VIII. Sir Richard, the father of Sir Thomas Gresham, was an eminent London merchant, elected Lord Mayor in 1537. Today the British banking is a complicated tripartite system like a three-layer cake. The system is: headed by the Bank of England. This bank was established under a royal charter in 1694. The head of the Bank is Governor of the Bank appointed by the Queen on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The Queen also appoints Deputy Governor and the Court of Directors, which consists of 16 directors. The Bank of England is a central bank or a national bank. It controls the British banking system, issues banknotes and mints coins. It lends and borrows money for the government, manages the n exchange, 'have been a regular feature of the economic landscape over the last half E. millennia.' A survey of this history finds that alternative currencies often arise out of similar socio-economic circumstances and then cease to circulate within a relatively short time. Lifespan has proven difficult to date. 'Further, the total number of all alternative currencies, past and present, is quite large.' For example, 'during the 16th-18th centuries within London alone' hundreds if not thousands of unique merchant tokens circulated. 'Prior to the recent proliferation of cryptocurrencies it has been suggested by some