From slave trade to ‘legitimate’ commerce

*The commercial transition in nineteenth-century West Africa*

Papers from a conference of the Centre of Commonwealth Studies, University of Stirling

*Edited by*

Robin Law
Contents

List of contributors
List of abbreviations

page ix
xi

Introduction
ROBIN LAW

1 The initial ‘crisis of adaptation’: the impact of British abolition on the Atlantic slave trade in West Africa, 1808–1820
PAUL E. LOVEJOY AND DAVID RICHARDSON

32

2 The West African palm oil trade in the nineteenth century and the ‘crisis of adaptation’
MARTIN LYNN

57

3 The compatibility of the slave and palm oil trades in Dahomey, 1818–1858
ELISÉE SOUMONNI

78

4 Between abolition and Jihad: the Asante response to the ending of the Atlantic slave trade, 1807–1896
GARETH AUSTIN

93

5 Plantations and labour in the south-east Gold Coast from the late eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century
RAYA. Kea

119

6 Owners, slaves and the struggle for labour in the commercial transition at Lagos
KRISTIN MANN

144

7 Slaves, Igbo women and palm oil in the nineteenth century
SUSAN MARTIN

172

8 ‘Legitimate’ trade and gender relations in Yorubaland and Dahomey
ROBIN LAW

195
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 In search of a desert-edge perspective: the Sahara-Sahel and the Atlantic trade, c. 1815–1900</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. ANN McDOUGALL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 The 'New International Economic Order' in the nineteenth century: Britain's first Development Plan for Africa</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. G. HOPKINS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix: the 'crisis of adaptation': a bibliography</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>