

Liverpool, the African Slave Trade, and Abolition

edited by

Roger Anstey and P. E. H. Hair



~~MASTER, SET~~

LIVERPOOL, THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE,
AND ABOLITION

Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire
Occasional Series

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Liverpool, the African Slave Trade, and Abolition

Essays to illustrate current knowledge and research

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PREFACE TO THE ENLARGED EDITION

Since this collection of essays was first published, the out-pouring of writings on the Atlantic slave trade has continued. Yet little of what has appeared bears specifically on the subject of this volume, the Liverpool contribution to the trade and to its abolition. It is notable that when the most recent work cited below (Eltis) discusses these topics, it makes extensive use of our first edition.

However, the collection now also includes an essay on the slave trade from certain ports of North-West England other than Liverpool, an essay which regrettably had to be excluded in the first edition for reasons of space only, and which appeared in the Society's *Transactions*.

The argument in Seymour Drescher's essay was later presented in expanded form in his book, *Econocide: British slavery in the era of Abolition* (1977); and attention is also drawn to relevant essays in C. Bolt and S. Drescher, eds., *Anti-slavery, religion and reform: essays in memory of Roger Anstey* (1980), to Herbert S. Klein, *The Middle Passage: comparative studies in the Slave Trade* (1978), and to the chapter summarising current knowledge of the Liverpool trade, in J.A. Rawley, *The Trans-Atlantic slave trade* (1981). References to later general work on the Atlantic trade and on abolition can be found in the most recent study, David Eltis, *Economic growth and the ending of the Transatlantic slave trade* (1987).

Finally, the profits of the Liverpool trade have been the subject of a controversy (to be found in 1981, 1983 and 1985 issues of the *Journal of Economic History*) between J.E. Inikori on the one hand and David Richardson and B.L. Anderson on the other. The controversy takes off from David Richardson's essay on this subject in the present volume.

I cannot conclude this preface without referring to what cannot be indicated elsewhere in a photographic reprint, the deaths of three of the original contributors. Roger Anstey (my fellow editor) and Frank Sanderson died not long after the first publication of this volume, both tragically in middle life; Marion Johnson died a few months ago, a scholar advanced in years but still active in research and wise in counsel.

P.E.H. Hair
1.7.1988