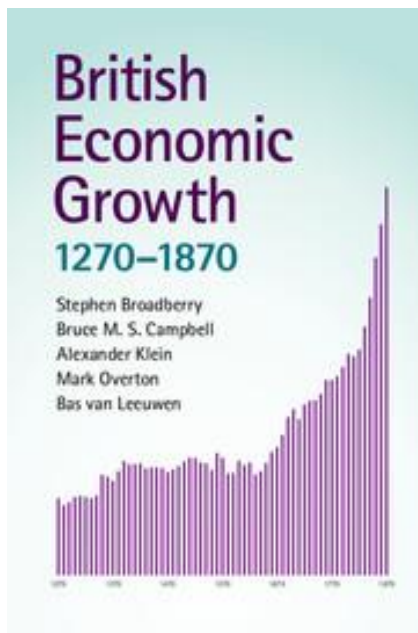


CAGE Seminar on British Economic Growth, 1270-1870

Venue: British Academy, 11 Carlton House Terrace, London

Date: Friday 15 May 2015

With the financial support of CAGE and the University of Exeter



This event is being held to mark the publication of *British Economic Growth, 1270-1870* by Stephen Broadberry, Bruce Campbell, Alexander Klein, Mark Overton and Bas van Leeuwen. This book offers a new account of Britain's evolution from a backwater of Europe in 1270 to the hub of the global economy in 1870, based on a reconstruction of national output right back into the thirteenth century. In the first part, comprehensive estimates of population, land use, agricultural production, industrial production and service-sector production are provided, together with estimates of Gross Domestic Product in current and constant prices and the price level. The second part of the book explores the implications of the new dataset. Contrary to traditional views of Malthusian stagnation until the nineteenth century, this study reveals how the transition to modern economic growth built on earlier foundations of growth. Although this growth was episodic, it was persistent, without any periods of "growth reversal" or sustained falls in the level of per capita income. As a result, per capita incomes doubled between 1270 and 1700 and then doubled again between 1700 and 1870.

Programme

10.00-11.00: Registration and coffee

11.00-13.00: Session 1 (Chair: Jane Humphries)

11.00-11.30: Stephen Broadberry: "Long-term trends in Britain, 1270-1870"

11.30-12.00: Mark Overton: "Agriculture, food and raw material supplies and nutrition"

12.00-12.30: Bruce Campbell: "Britain in international perspective"

12.30-13.00: General discussion

13.00-14.00: Buffet lunch in the Gallery

14.00-16.00: Session 2 (Chair: Nicholas Crafts)

14.00-14.30: Gunnar Persson: "Growth or stagnation in pre-industrial Britain?"

14.30-15.00: Knick Harley: "The uses (and abuses) of very long term historical GDP estimates"

15.00-15.30: Giovanni Federico: "The Holy Grail of Economic History: long-run economic growth and the industrial revolution in Britain"

15.30-16.00: General discussion

16.00-17.00: Wine reception