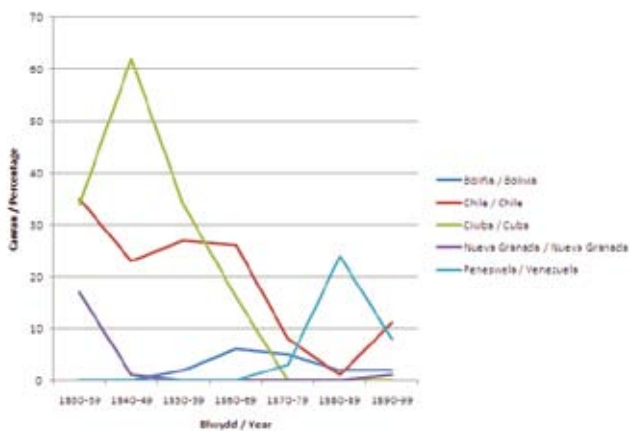
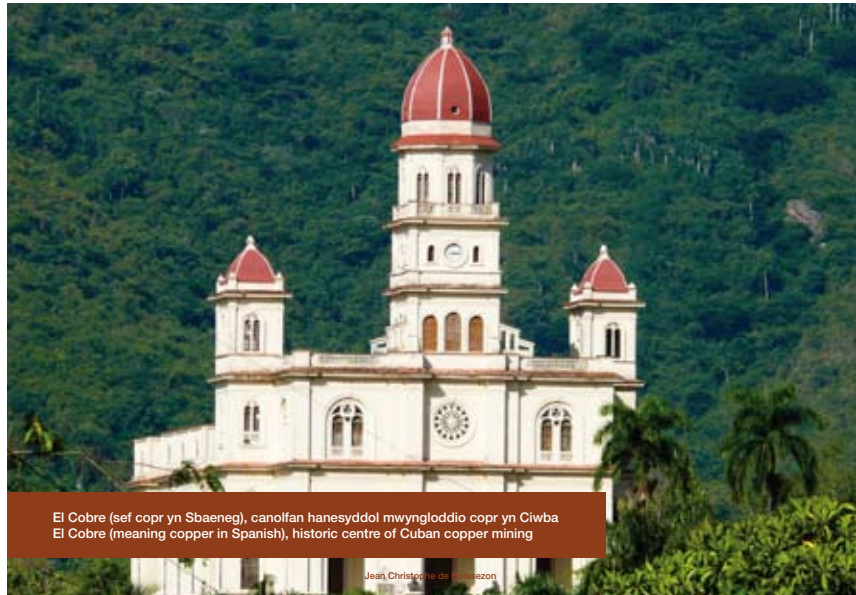


CYMRU A'R BYD NEWYDD WALES AND THE NEW WORLD

Mwyn copr wedi'i fewnforio o America Ladin i'r DU 1830-1899
Imports of Latin American copper ore to the UK 1830-1899



Casgwyd gan Dr. Manuel Llorca-Jaña | Compiled by Dr. Manuel Llorca-Jaña



El Cobre (sef copr yn Sbaeneg), canolfan hanesyddol mwyngloddio copr yn Ciwba
El Cobre (meaning copper in Spanish), historic centre of Cuban copper mining

Jean Christophe de Bassez

Daeth gwledydd fel Chile, Peru a Bolivia yn annibynnol ar Sbaen yn y 1820au. Ymelwodd y gwledydd ar eu cyfoeth o fwynau er mwyn ysgogi eu heconomïau.

Sefydlodd busnesau yng Nghymru fusnesau mwyngloddio a mwyndoddi yn ardaloedd copr gogledd orllewin Chile. Roedd Cwmni Mwyngloddio Copiapó yn cyflogi nifer o fwynwyr o Gymru o'r 1830au. Roedd Meistri Allison a Francis o Abertawe'n rheoli ffwrnais fwyndoddi yn Cerrillos de Tamaya, Coquimbo.

Roedd Chile yn dominyddu cyflenwad y byd o 1851 i 1880 ond Roedd gan fasnachwyr ac arianwyr Prydain ran helaeth yn y fasnach. O ddiwedd y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg daeth copr wedi'i fwyndoddi o Chile yn ddeunydd crai hanfodol ar gyfer diwydiant Cymru. Roedd yn cael ei allforio i dde Cymru i gael ei goethi ymhellach.

Ond roedd ochr dywyllach i gyfranogiad Cymru yng ngopr y Byd Newydd hefyd. Pan gafodd mwyngloddiau dwyrain Cuba yn El Cobre eu hail-ddatblygu yn y 1830au roedd gweithlu parod o gaethweision yno. Er gwaethaf y mudiad Gwrth-Gaethwasiaeth yng Nghymru roedd busnesau megis Mary Glascott a'i Meibion o Waith Copr Cambrian Llanelli a Pascoe Grenfell a'i Feibion o Abertawe yn goddef cadw caethweision yn eu cwmni yn Ciwba.

Countries like Chile, Peru and Bolivia became independent from Spain in the 1820s. They exploited their mineral wealth to stimulate their economies.

Welsh businesses set up mining and smelting concerns in the copper districts of north-western Chile. The Copiapó Mining Company employed a number of Welsh miners from the 1830s. Messrs. Allison and Francis of Swansea managed a smelter at Cerrillos de Tamaya, in Coquimbo.

Chile dominated world supply from 1851 to 1880 but British merchants and financiers were heavily involved in the trade. From the later nineteenth century Chilean smelted copper became a crucial raw material for the Welsh industry. It was exported to south Wales for further refining.

Welsh involvement in New World copper also had a darker side. When east Cuban mines at El Cobre were re-exploited in the 1830s slave labourers formed a ready-made workforce. In spite of the Anti-Slavery movement in Wales businesses such as Mary Glascott and Sons of Llanelli's Cambrian Copper Works and Pascoe Grenfell and Sons of Swansea tolerated slave-holding in their Cuban company.

“These mines are of copper, and the ore is all shipped to Swansea, to be smelted. Hence the mines have an aspect singularly quiet, as compared to those in England: here no smoke, furnaces, or great steam-engines, disturb the solitude of the surrounding mountains.”

Charles Darwin, *A Naturalist's Voyage: Journal of Researches into the Natural History and Geology of Countries Visited during the Voyage of the HMS Beagle Around the World*, Pennod 12, 18 Awst 1834

Charles Darwin, *A Naturalist's Voyage: Journal of Researches into the Natural History and Geology of Countries Visited during the Voyage of the HMS Beagle Around the World*, Chapter 12, 18 August 1834