

PRIS COPR

THE PRICE OF COPPER

Copper Ores Sampled

and Sold at Swansea, 27th May

1829

**Tocynn yn Abertawe am fwynau o Gymru ac Iwerddon, 27 Mai 1829
Swansea ticketing for Welsh and Irish ores, 27 May 1829**

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W. H. Thompson

Hyd at 1877 a sefydlu Cyfnewidfa Metel Llundain, roedd y rhan fwyaf o fwyn copr Prydain a mwyn wedi'i fevnforio'n cael ei werthu mewn sesiynau 'tocyngu' yng Nghernyw ac Abertawe.

Dechreuodd y tocynnau yng Nghernyw o gwmpas 1728 ac roeddent yn delio â mwynau o fwyngloddiau'r rhanbarth yn unig. Dechreuodd y tocynnau yn Abertawe o gwmpas 1815. Cafodd y sesiynau eu sefydli ar y dechrau i werthu mwynau o Gymru, Lloegr ac Iwerddon, ond yn ddiweddarach roeddent yn delio â chynnwrych copr wedi'i fewnfforio hefyd.

Roedd dyddiau tocynnau'n cael eu trefnu pythefnos ar ôl i samplau mwyn o wahanol fwyngloddiau gael eu profi am eu cynnwys metel. Roedd manylion y prawf yn cael eu rhoi ar y 'tocynnau' oedd yn lapio'r samplau ac yn cael eu harchwilio gan asiantau'r mwynododdwyr.

Roedd tocyrru'n caniatáu i bris copr gael ei osod mewn marchnad agored. Byddai asiantau mwyneddoddwyr yn bidio yn erbyn ei gilydd i bwrcasu'r mwyn o fwynnaloddiau penodol am y pris gorau.

Until 1877 and the establishment of the London Metal Exchange most British and imported copper ore was sold at 'ticketing' events in Cornwall and Swansea.

Cornish ticketings started around 1728 and dealt exclusively in ores from the region's mines. Swansea ticketings started around 1815. They were initially set up for the sale of English, Welsh and Irish ores, but later dealt in imported copper products too.

Ticketing days were set a fortnight after samples of ore from different mines were tested for their metal content or 'assayed'. This information was provided on the 'tickets' which wrapped the samples and were examined by the smelters' agents.

Ticketings allowed the price of copper to be set in an open market place. Smelters' agents would bid against each other to purchase the ore from particular mines at the best price.

On this ticketing day a dinner almost equal to a city feast is provided at the expense of the mines in proportion to the quantity of ores each mine has to sell...

William Pryce, *Mineralogia Cornubiensis*, 1788