

Y BUSNES COPR THE COPPER BUSINESS



Portread ysgythriad o'r entrepreneur o Birmingham, Matthew Boulton (1728-1809)
Engraving portrait of Birmingham entrepreneur Matthew Boulton (1728-1809)

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“Copper is our oldest contract, first traded in 1877, and today remains one of our busiest as companies around the world use the LME as a price reference, supplier of metal and venue to manage risk.”

Chris Evans, Cyfnewidfa Metel Llundain | London Metal Exchange

Sefydodd y meistr copr o Sir Fôn, Thomas Williams, gynsail ar gyfer sut y byddai masnach gopr y byd yn gweithredu yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg. Yn y 1780au a'r 90au sicrhodd ei reolaeth a'i driniaeth o'r diwydiant yr elw mwyaf posibl. Roedd cytundebau gyda gwneuthurwyr fel Matthew Boulton o Birmingham yn ymgais i gau allan y gystadleuaeth o du perchnogion mwynloddiau Cernyw, oedd yn ffurfio eu cartelau eu hunain.

Cwmnïau mwynoddi oedd yn pennu'r prisiau. Cyn canol y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg roedd mwyn copr yn cael ei brynu a'i werthu mewn cynullïadau 'tocynnu' lle byddai asiantau'r mwynoddwyr yn bidio am y mwyn o amryw o fwyngloddiau. Roedd Sweetland, Tuttle a'r Cwmni o Lansawel yn prynu mwynau'n rheolaidd o un ar bymtheg o borthladdoedd gwahanol.

Caniataodd newidiadau i'r tollau mewnforio yn y 1820au i'r mwynoddwyr ehangu eu busnesau yn rhyngwladol. Roedd cwmnïau Cymreig megis Vivian a'i Feibion yn gweithredu o Abertawe, Llundain, Lerpwl a'r Unol Daleithiau.

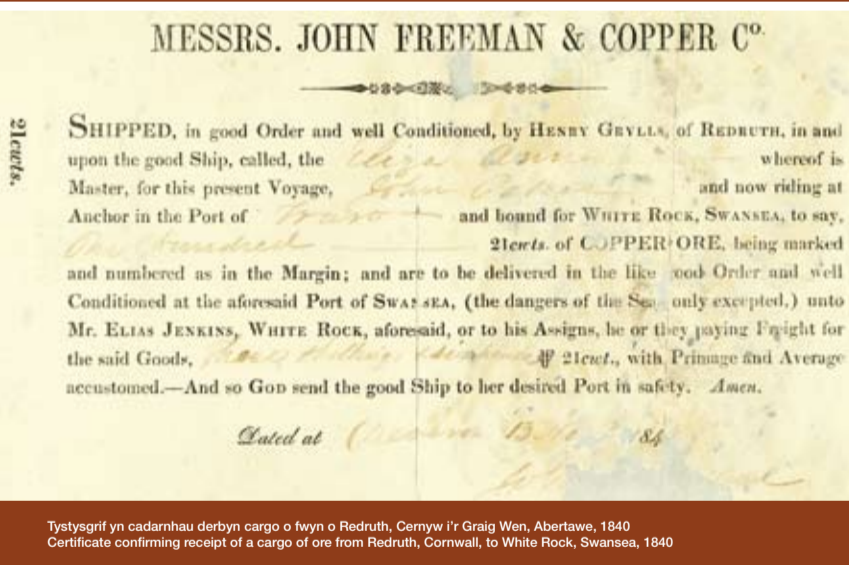
Arweiniodd cyfranogiad cynyddol buddsoddwyr rhyngwladol at sefydlu Cyfnewidfa Fetel Llundain ym 1877. Gosod pris copr y byd oedd un o'r pethau masnachol cyntaf i ddefnyddio'r telegraff trydanol.

Anglesey copper magnate Thomas Williams, set a precedent for how the world copper trade was to operate in the nineteenth century. In the 1780s and 90s his control and manipulation of the industry ensured maximum profits. Deals with manufacturers such as Matthew Boulton of Birmingham attempted to shut out competition from Cornish mine owners, who formed their own cartels.

Smelting companies dictated prices. Before the mid-nineteenth century copper ore was bought and sold at 'ticketings' where smelters' agents would bid for ore from a variety of mines. Sweetland, Tuttle and Co. of Briton Ferry regularly brought in ores from sixteen different ports.

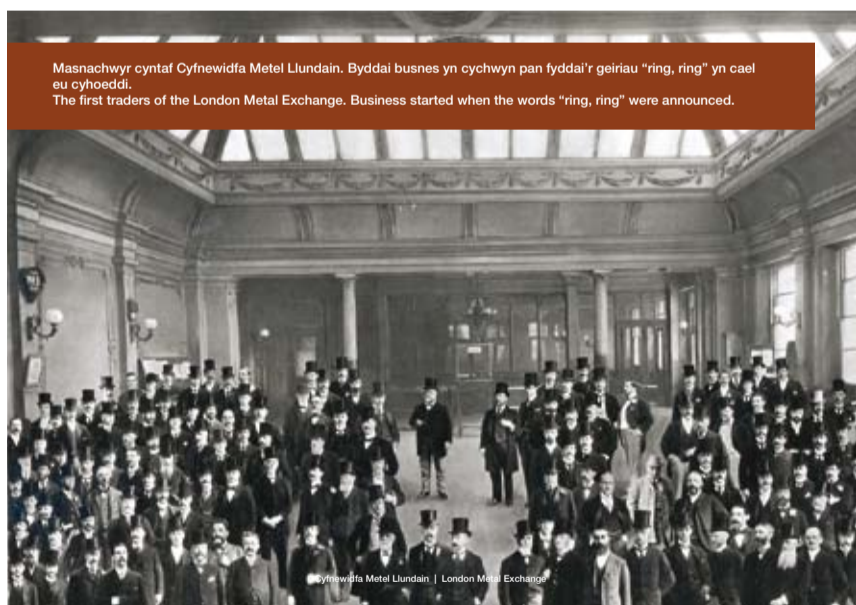
Changes to import tariffs in the 1820s allowed smelters to expand their businesses internationally. Welsh companies such as Vivian and Sons operated from Swansea, London, Liverpool and the USA.

The increased involvement of international investors led to the establishment of the London Metal Exchange in 1877. One of the first commercial uses of the electric telegraph was to set the world price of copper.



Tystysgrif yn cadarnhau derbyn cargo o fwyn o Redruth, Cernyw i'r Graig Wen, Abertawe, 1840
Certificate confirming receipt of a cargo of ore from Redruth, Cornwall, to White Rock, Swansea, 1840

Amgueddfa Cymru | National Museum Wales



Masnachwyr cyntaf Cyfnewidfa Metel Llundain. Byddai busnes yn cychwyn pan fyddai'r geiriau "ring, ring" yn cael eu cyhoeddi.
The first traders of the London Metal Exchange. Business started when the words "ring, ring" were announced.

Cyfnewidfa Metel Llundain | London Metal Exchange