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978-1-107-02129-7 - The British Textile Trade in South America in the Nineteenth Century

Manuel Llorca-Jaña

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The British Textile Trade in South America in the Nineteenth Century

This is the first work on British textile exports to South America during the nineteenth century. During this period, textiles ranked among the most important manufactures traded in the world market, and Britain was the foremost producer. Thanks to new data, this book demonstrates that British exports to South America were transacted at very high rates during the first decades after independence. This development was due to improvements in the packing of textiles; decreasing costs of production and introduction of free trade in Britain; falling ocean freight rates, marine insurances, and import duties in South America; dramatic improvements in communications; and the introduction of better port facilities. Manuel Llorca-Jaña explores the marketing chain of textile exports to South America and sheds light on South American consumers' behavior. This book contains the most comprehensive database on Anglo–South American trade during the nineteenth century and fills an important gap in the historiography.

Manuel Llorca-Jaña is a Fondecyt Research Fellow (University of Chile) and is currently a visiting lecturer in economic history at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. He has published articles in edited collections and in *Business History* and the *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History*. He is also a regular contributor to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* and the author of the first history of the insurance industry in Chile. Llorca-Jaña's PhD thesis (Leicester University) was short-listed for the Coleman Prize in 2011. He also worked as part-time lecturer at Birkbeck College and as economist for several years at the British National Audit Office and at the Chilean Central Bank.

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MANUEL LLORCA-JAÑA

Universitat Pompeu Fabra and University of Chile



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*To my wife Ana María and our little one Román;
always with me, always with you*

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Abbreviations

AGSP	Antony Gibbs & Sons papers
AJS	Archivo Judicial de Santiago
AJV	Archivo Judicial de Valparaiso
ANCH	Archivo Nacional de Chile
BDP-RHL	Benjamin Davidson papers
BPP	British Parliamentary papers
BT	Board of Trade
BWP	Balfour Williamson Papers at UCL
BWP-LTSB	Balfour Williamson letter book at Lloyds
CUST/4	Ledgers of Imports Under Countries
CUST/5	Ledgers of Imports Under Articles
CUST/8	Ledgers of Exports of British Merchandise Under Countries
CUST/9	Ledgers of Exports of British Merchandise Under Articles
FDN	Fielden Brothers papers
FO	Foreign Office
GFDP	George Frederick Dickson papers
GHR	Green, Hodgson and Robinson papers
HC	Baring Brothers papers
HDP	Hugh Dallas papers
HPCL	Huth papers, English letters at UCL
HPGL	Huth papers at Guildhall Library
JAP	John Anderton papers
LA	Latin America
LSE	London School of Economics
NA	National Archives, Kew
OCE	Oficina Central de Estadística
OWN	Owen Owens & Son papers

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Abbreviations

RHL	Huth papers at Rothschild
SC	Southern Cone
THS	Thomas Helsby & Sons papers
UGD/28	John Wylie & Co. papers
WLP	William Lupton & Co. papers

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Places and Spellings

All references to “Santiago” refer to “Santiago de Chile.”

The term Southern Cone means the modern countries of Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile.

The term Latin America means the territory from the Rio Bravo to Patagonia, including all the Caribbean islands, Mexico, all Central America, and all South America.

The use of “America” or “American” to refer to “the United States of America” or its citizens was avoided. The term used, instead, is “the United States,” except for the American Civil War of 1861–1865.

All figures in sterling pounds are expressed in decimal pounds. That is, figures originally available in guineas, shilling, and old pence (240 pence per pound) were converted into the modern British currency system. Therefore, all figures in pence refer to 100 pence per pound.