

city for the right of selling, and the consumer would purchase cheaper than at the shops of the butchers, who have necessarily to charge a profit on his purchase from them, and which increases the cost of the articles. A petition from the *habitants* in proof of this will shortly be presented to the city. If there were no private butchers' stalls, the scales at the markets would return a larger revenue. In the present divided state of the market question, comparatively little is done in weighing, while a considerable return would be effected if the sale of meat were confined to the markets.

Let us look at the question from the consumers' point of view. It is obvious that the open competition of the markets is most desirable from many points of view, so desirable, in fact, that it requires no argument, while the large choice it affords the purchaser can be attained in no other way.

The inspection of meat in public markets is attained by the officer of the Corporation in a fraction of the time employed in examining private shops, and each butcher in a market, in a proper business-like competitive sense, is a meat inspector and a health officer.

On sanitary grounds the market is preferable to the private stall, which is generally a dwelling house altered. The market is constructed for the purpose of selling and storing meat. It is more open, loftier, better ventilated; its ice house accommodation is better; it is more adapted to meet sanitary requirements, more easily purified by water, and much less likely to produce or foster disease.