

from Germany, and only 122,680 pounds from the United States. Our own official returns make no special mention of any exports of fresh beef before the year 1877, when 49,210,990 pounds—the whole export—were shipped to the United Kingdom. Our trade in fresh beef has sprung into sudden magnitude, having steadily increased from 49,210,990 pounds, valued at \$4,552,523, in 1877, to 120,784,064 pounds, valued at \$11,987,331, in 1884.

The British official returns place the following per pound value upon the imports of fresh beef into the kingdom during the years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884:

Whence imported.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>
United States	11.27	11.48	12.06	12.22	11.80
Canada	11.03	12.51	11.30	12.04	12.12
Russia				10.84	0.92
Germany	13.31	11.50	11.71	12.91	12.56
Australasia				12.00	10.61
France				13.19	16.88

It will be seen that American beef maintained the lead of all countries from which meat is drawn in any quantity. The slight price decrease in 1884 can have no significance when the immense quantity imported from the United States (90,904,128 pounds) is taken into consideration.

Our consular reports a few years back repeatedly referred to the prejudice existing in Great Britain against American beef, while at the same time the British people were unknowingly proving the groundlessness for such prejudice by eating large quantities thereof under the name of prime English beef—a trick of the butchers, who had helped to create and maintain the prejudice referred to.

The consuls asserted that this prejudice, principally engendered and sustained by the butchers, whose interests it was feared would be injured by the American fresh-beef trade, required for its total dissipation only comprehensive and intelligent action on the part of our exporters in placing their meat properly before the British people, who would undoubtedly consult and conserve their own interests in the premises.

Central meat depots, with outlying shops in the principal cities of the kingdom, controlled and directed by British agents in the employ of the American shippers, or having an interest in the business, were suggested as the radical remedy for the immediate development of an almost unlimited trade in fresh beef.

Recent reports make no reference to this phase of the trade, and it is to be assumed that the British public have become more or less convinced that American cattle and American meats are the very best in the world, outside of, perhaps, their own selected cattle and beef. It may even be doubted whether the best forced-fed English beef is any better than the beef raised on our rich and succulent ranges.

The following extracts from a report written by the consul at Manchester in 1882 will illustrate this peculiar phase of our fresh-beef trade in England:

The wide difference between the price English butchers pay our American exporters for their meats, as compared with the price they charge for the same at retail, leads me to again refer to the great need of the adoption of better methods for placing our meats on sale here.

At present the English dealer makes an unadvised profit out of the American meat supply. This is often done by misrepresenting the kind of meat he sells, for it is a common practice, I am credibly informed, to combine the beef, mutton, &c., on sale

is all English. American supervision, applied with so much success, was conversely told me. If Manchester, long bill of lading, forgot that a statement of dealer to the American beef. And now there would be a wide take steps to several years, but owing and also on a source of supply the supply of things which the experimenter way everywhere receive at least butchers here reduction from good beef, would cheaper meat—eat beef on account its right name, deer and consequently an undue profit.

The statistics sense of supply and as it would supply that more than in the future concerned with handling as transactions must be across the Atlantic.

There can be no convenient and anxiety in regard States, of which would be no more regulations for as before mentioned.

The fullest information would seem to be cattle to Great Britain shipping from cattlemen and pounds of fresh our ability to shoot trouble and export cattle to produce which would be animals, the product, &c., all of agriculturists.