

competition, to not only hold its own, but to find the demand for it steadily growing, and it is a trade which deserves to be encouraged in every possible manner.

473. The quantity of dead meat exported from the Australasian Colonies to England is increasing as is shown by the following figures of meat delivered in London :—

Export of  
dead meat  
to Eng-  
land from  
Australas-  
ian col-  
onies.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND KILLED FRESH MEAT DELIVERED  
IN LONDON, 1881-1886.\*

	Cwt.
1881.....	11,300
1882.....	34,540
1883.....	93,420
1884.....	222,560
1885.....	230,400
1886.....	294,220

The rapidity with which this trade has sprung into existence may be gathered from the fact that Australian-killed fresh meat was delivered in London for the first time in 1880, and consisted of only 69 bodies of beef and 555 carcasses of sheep.

474. The Argentine Republic also, for both live and dead meat threatens to become a very formidable competitor. In 1883, that country only exported to Great Britain \$50,000 worth of mutton, and in 1886, \$1,802,483 worth, and last year its Government passed a law according bounties to the extent of \$500,000 a year for 3 years on the exportation of live and dead meat.

Export of  
live and  
dead meat  
from the  
Argentine  
Republic.

475. Some idea of the quantity of meat required annually by Great Britain from foreign countries may be obtained from the following figures of the imports of meat in 1887 :—

Imports of  
meat into  
United  
Kingdom.

IMPORTS OF MEAT INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1887.

Cattle.....	No.	265,961
Sheep and lambs.....	"	971,403
Beef.....	Cwt.	873,991
Mutton, fresh.....	"	784,841
Preserved meats.....	"	519,180

\*Agricultural Department Returns, Privy Council Office, London, September, 1887.