

TABLE SHOWING THE PROPORTIONATE QUANTITIES OF WHEAT IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM FROM THE PRINCIPAL WHEAT-EXPORTING COUNTRIES, 1871-1888.

YEAR.	IMPORTED FROM.							
	Russia.	Germany	British North America.	United States.	Chili.	British India.	Australia.	Other Countries.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1871...	35·37	9·60	8·52	35·22	1·33	0·50	0·84	8·62
1872...	37·70	10·87	4·53	20·23	3·52	0·34	1·17	21·64
1873...	18·78	5·85	8·36	42·17	3·56	1·43	4·05	15·80
1874...	11·76	8·13	8·71	55·16	4·47	2·18	2·35	7·24
1875...	17·06	11·11	6·83	44·29	1·51	2·24	2·13	14·83
1876...	17·17	6·72	5·35	42·81	1·95	6·35	5·48	14·17
1877...	17·33	11·03	5·14	37·16	1·28	9·62	0·71	17·73
1878...	15·32	10·91	5·03	56·27	0·09	3·04	2·62	6·72
1879...	11·12	6·52	7·33	61·12	2·04	1·22	3·15	7·50
1880...	4·33	4·12	6·63	65·42	2·12	4·72	6·74	5·92
1881...	5·75	4·34	4·49	64·05	1·64	10·29	4·64	4·80
1882...	12·01	6·91	3·87	55·72	2·13	10·51	3·83	5·02
1883...	15·91	6·25	2·87	47·57	2·72	13·30	3·30	8·08
1884...	8·34	4·95	3·96	53·74	1·60	12·06	8·11	7·24
1885...	14·86	4·61	2·58	47·90	2·00	14·98	6·69	6·38
1886...	6·03	3·43	6·20	58·05	2·74	17·75	1·31	4·49
1887...	7·51	2·90	6·67	61·45	2·99	11·52	1·83	5·13
1889...	29·22	5·91	2·53	36·69	2·00	11·01	3·15	9·49

360. The United States share of exports was less than in any year since 1877, while that of Russia was higher than it had been since 1872, and the advance that this country has made as a wheat-exporting country during the last three years has been very marked. The proportion from British India was about the same as in the preceding year. Were it not for the British demand, it is questionable whether wheat would be any longer a profitable crop beyond the limits of home consumption; and, in any case, one thing appears certain, as pointed out in a previous issue,\* that only under some unexpected and untoward circumstances can wheat ever approach in value to the prices of former years, and it would be well if the farmer, especially in the older settled parts of the country, could be brought to understand this, and turn his attention from rais-

Decline of wheat as a profitable crop.

\* Statistical Abstract, 1887, pp. 224-225.