

will show the growth of the mutton trade and the decrease of the sheep trade during a series of years :—

BRITISH IMPORTS.

YEAR.	Sheep.	Fresh Mutton.
	No.	Cwt.
1886	1,038,965	653,447
1887	971,404	783,114
1888	956,210	988,010
1889	677,958	1,225,058
1890	358,458	1,656,419
1891	344,504	1,662,994
1892	79,048	1,699,966
1893	62,682	1,971,500
1894	484,597	2,295,066

The year 1894 showed a marked increase both in sheep and in fresh mutton.

691. The change which has taken place will be seen from the following :—

	Lbs.
Imports of mutton and sheep, 1894	276,431,232
" " 1889	212,637,248
Increase in mutton and sheep	63,793,984
Live sheep, 1894	19,383,840
" 1889	27,118,320
Decrease in sheep	7,734,480

The consumption has increased 38 per cent. The proportion of the consumption, which was in the imported form of the live animal, has decreased from 12·7 per cent in 1889 to 7 per cent of the total in 1894.

Clearly, notwithstanding the exceptional increase of 1894, if this continent desires to do any considerable share of the supply of mutton required by Great Britain, it will have to try some other plan than shipping the live animal.

692. In preserved mutton, of which Great Britain took 112,928 cwt. in 1894, Australasia supplied 106,619 cwt., the United States 2,626 cwt., and Canada 1,258 cwt., the total import of Great Britain being 12,647,936 lbs., or about 4 per cent of all other mutton imports.

693. Pork was supplied to Great Britain from outside countries :

	Lbs.
In 1887-89	48,572,011 (average.)
1890-92	37,888,965
1793-94	43,366,064

The United States supplied 35·51 per cent of the quantity imported in the first period, 49·62 per cent in the second and 34·5 per cent in the third. Canada supplied 1·01 per cent in the first period; just a smell of it (0·11 per cent) in the second and 1·3 per cent in the third. Canada raises the best pork and ought to secure a larger share of the demand of Great Britain.