

THE ROAST BEEF OF OLD ENGLAND

Henry Fielding (1707–1754) and others

Richard Leveridge (1670–1758)

1. When might - y Roast Beef was the Eng - lish - man's food,
 2. But since we have learned from ef - fem - in - ate France
 3. Our fa - thers of old were ro - bust, stout, and strong,
 4. Great Han - del, 'tis said, could eat din - ner for six,
 5. Then long may each Brit - on of beef have his fill

It en - no - bled our hearts and en - rich - ed our blood.
 To — eat their ra - gouts — as well as to dance,
 And they kept o - pen house with good cheer all day long,
 Which was doubt - less his rea - son on Eng - land to fix,
 At — Christ - mas, the sea - son of peace and good - will,

Our — sol - diers were brave and our court - iers were good.
 We're fed up with noth - ing but vain com - plais - sance.
 Which made their plump ten - ants re - joice in this song:
 As the land where good mu - sic with eat - ing they mix.
 For the man that's well fed, sirs, can nev - er do ill.

Oh! the Roast Beef of old Eng - land, And oh for old Eng - land's Roast Beef! —