

# 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.

7  
 Oh! the Roast Beef of old Eng - land, And oh for old Eng - land's Roast Beef!—