

The threatened changes in the classification of Manitoba wheat, referred to in last year's Report have, although strongly opposed by the Toronto and Montreal Boards of Examiners, been duly authorized by the Government, and the standard was reduced accordingly, much to the regret of all interested in maintaining the high character borne by this grain in transatlantic markets.

In connection with this alteration of the law, it may be mentioned that at the annual meeting of for the selection of grain standards for the guidance of Inspectors, held last September in Toronto, and attended by delegates from the various Boards of Grain Examiners throughout the Dominion, there was a failure to agree, under the new classification, upon the standards for Manitoba wheat. The Department of Inland Revenue subsequently approved for standards samples of wheat selected by the Winnipeg Board of Trade, which included grades not provided for by the Inspection Act, and the Council submits that such a course was irregular, and that standards should not be fixed contrary to the existing law.

#### *Leather and Raw Hides.*

Inspector,..... Board of Examiners, 1888:—C. R. Black, Chairman ; W. B. Chapman, J. C. Holden, James Linton, B. Shaw.

The Inspector of leather and raw hides, Mr. Thos. Hawkins, died on 22nd November last, and since then, pending the appointment of a successor, the Deputy Leather Inspector, Mr. De Lancy Sykes, and the Deputy Hide Inspector, Mr. A. Masson, have performed the duties of their respective offices. The fees accruing from this inspection having of late years aggregated about nine thousand dollars annually, the Council, at instance of the Board of Examiners, and the trade generally, has addressed the Government, recommending the division of the office into two inspectorships, one for leather and one for raw hides, and also the following reduction in the fees:—Sole leather to be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per side, instead of 2 cents; hides to be 4 cents each, instead of 5 cents, for lots under one hundred, and 3 cents each, instead of 4 cents, for lots of one hundred and over.

#### *Pot Ashes and Pearl Ashes.*

Inspector, Edward J. Major. Board of Examiners, 1888:—Chas. H. Cunningham, Hy. Dobell, Jas. E. Kirkpatrick, Jas. C. Sinton, D. T. Tees.

The increase in the inspection fees of this office, recommended by the Council as necessary to cover the expenditure on account of its main-