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The occupation of a boiler inspector is one in which a man cannot grow fat without losing his job, and perhaps is a funny business in that his job, and perhaps is a funny business in that respect. Each boiler inspected is drained of its contents, and then the inspector rigs himself for a dirty job and wriggles himself into the inside of it through the manhole. This aperture cannot well be made large enough to admit a large man, hence the smallest-sized fellows have the monopoly of the business. But though that fact may be funny, the business itself getting into dirty and stifling places and itself, getting into dirty and stiffing places, and wriggling like a human worm into every hole and corner to know its real condition, is anyand corner to know its real condition, is anything but fun. The most scrupulous care is required in these examinations, and as everything is out of sight, the insurance company have to depend wholly upon the trustworthiness of their men. Hence these get pay that makes amends for all they have to undergo, sufficient, indeed, to keep them from getting too big for their business!—Lewiston Yournal.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 15th July, 1896.

ASHES.-A very dull market is reported at the moment. Since last writing a few moderate lots have been shipped to Britain, including one of 55 brls. but the demand is now very limited, and owing to the low values receipts have been much checked. For first quality pots, the quotation is only \$3.35 to 3.40; seconds, \$3.10; and pearls, nominal, at about \$4.60 per cental.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—The butter market is if anything a shade weaker than a week ago and while sellers are asking 164c. for creamery and while sellers are asking 16½c. for creamery, some dealers are not willing to go beyond 15½c., though others offer 15¾ to 16c. per lb. The shipments to Britain last week were 1,247 pkgs. Of cheese there were shipped last week 53,783 boxes, respectable figures, but some 19,000 boxes behind the same week of 1895, which was a very heavy one. The usual weekly receipts here from the French districts on Monday were some 7,000 boxes, which realized from 6\(\frac{2}{3}\) to 7c. per pound.

DRY GOODS.—Quite a number of orders for fall dry goods are being received from the country, but the general report is that they are

	july 6, '96.	July 13, 96. 1
Wheat, bushels		370,536
Corn, "	50,040	23,737
Oats, "	300,020	298,445
Rye, "	6,484	6,484
Peas, "	77,329	107,135
Barley, "	36,822	35,542
Total grain	865,345	841.879
Oatmeal		4,619
Flour	37,550	35,346
Buckwheat	7,818	8,551

report a shortage in settlements of six million pounds, as compared with a year ago, but this does not seem to stiffen the market much. It is reported that the Japs are only going to pick half the third crop, owing to the higher cost of labor and charcoal, and this is causing a more active demend for common grades on the cost of labor and charcoal, and this is causing a more active demand for common grades on the Japan market. From London, Ceylons are reported easier, large receipts of lower grades having forced the market down. Coffees are dull and easy; we quote Rio 16 to 17½c., Maracaibo 17½ to 18c., Java 23 to 25c., Mocha 23 to 26c. Packers seem to be easing up on quota times for new control vegetables. tions for new canned vegetables, and are said to be offering corn, tomatoes and peas in car lots at 67½c., or a shade under.

HIDES.—Prices of beef hides are firmer. Some of the tanners have put a couple of buyers on the market, in opposition to the dealers combine, and while the nominal figure is still 6c. per lb. for No. 1 green, higher prices are being paid to butchers in some cases. The quotation to tanners is 7c. for No. 1. In calfskins, lambskins and clips there is no change.

skins, lambskins and clips there is no change.

Leather —No improvement can be noted in the general demand; but there is no weakening in values: indeed, several Western tanners have written their representatives in this market to ask a cent higher for glove grain and pebbled leather, but in the face of the light enquiry it is hard to realize any advance. Sole is very firmly held at quotations. Stocks on spot are not large, in fact, supplies of splits and waxed upper are on the small side. We quote: — Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 20 to 22c.; do. No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 19 to 21c.; No. 2, 18c.; No. 1 slaughter, 21 to 22c.; No. 2 do., 19c.; common, 17 to 18c.; waxed upper light and medium, 27 to 30c.; do. heavy, 25 to 28c.; grained, 25 to 30c.; western splits, 16 to 20c.; Quebec do., 12 to 14c.; juniors, 13 to 16c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf-skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 22c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 14c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 11 to 13c.; extra heavy buff, 14c.; pebbled cow, 10 to 12c.; polished buff, 10 to 12c.; glove grain, 10 to 11c.; rough, 20 to 22c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c. LEATHER -No improvement can be noted in to 45c

DRY GOODS.—Quite a number of orders for fall dry goods are being received from the country, but the general report is that they are small in extent, and the determination to buy closely is evidently general among retailers of luly orders so far received quite a little ahead of last year but the aggregate of business really smaller. City retail trade is dull, and orders from this quarter are principally confined to such merchandise as cottons, prints, etc. Payments are characterized as slow; such payments are characterized a