

577. It shall be the duty of each inspector, once at least in every year, to inspect all stationary steam boilers of three horse power and upwards, used within the limits of his district, subjecting them to a hydrostatic test of at least twenty-five per cent. in excess of the steam pressure allowed, and satisfy himself, by a thorough external and internal examination, (if possible,) with a hammer, that the boilers are free from danger from corrosion or other defects, are well made of good material, the openings for the passage of water and steam, respectively, and all pipes and tubes exposed to heat are of proper dimensions, and free from obstruction; that the flues and tubes, if any, are circular in form, the furnaces in proper shape, and the fire line of the furnaces is at least two inches below the minimum water line of the boilers; and shall also satisfy himself that the safety valves are of suitable dimensions, sufficient in number and well arranged, and that the weights are properly adjusted so as to allow no greater pressure in the boiler than the amount prescribed in the certificate of inspection; that there is a sufficient number of gauge-cocks, a steam gauge, a coupling cock in suitable position for attaching the hydrostatic test, that means for blowing out are provided, so as to thoroughly remove the mud and sediment from all parts of the boilers when they are under the pressure of steam, and that fusible metals are properly inserted so as to fuse by the heat of the furnaces when the water in the boilers shall fall below the prescribed limits, and that adequate and certain provision is made for an ample supply of water at all times; when the inspection is completed and the inspector approves the boiler, he shall make and subscribe a certificate of inspection, stating the condition of the boiler, the number of years or months it has been in use, and the pressure of steam allowed; and no greater pressure than that allowed by the certificate shall be applied to such boiler. In limiting pressure, whenever the boiler under test will, with safety, bear the same, the limit desired by the owner shall be the one certified; and such certificate of inspection shall be framed under glass, and kept in some conspicuous place on the premises where said boiler referred to is used; and if the inspector shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the owner or renter of any boiler a certificate of inspection without having first subjected the said boiler to the tests as herein provided, he shall