

# Markdale Standard

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## Markdale Standard

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## Patrons of Husbandry.

Condensed report of semi-annual meeting of Grey Division Grange, held at Judsonville, July 6rd, 1884:

To the Worthy Master and Patrons of Grey Division Grange No. 2:

Your Committee on Stock beg to report as follows: That the Durhams or good Durham grades are the most profitable stock a farmer can raise as they come to maturity earlier than any other breed your committee are acquainted with, and to make farming with stock more profitable, more attention be paid to well-bred animals. Feeding from the beginning is indispensable, as we have the united testimony of all practical men, especially as regards cattle for beef. If a heast be matured at two years of age there is much more profit than by keeping till a greater age. We also consider it advisable for neighborhoods to cooperate as much as possible by going into one kind of stock. As regards dairying, your committee would not recommend any particular breed, as there is such a variety of opinions as regards that class of stock.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**GIDEON HARKNESS.**  
Moved by Bro G Harkness, seconded by Bro D Armstrong, that this report be adopted and engrossed on the minutes.—Passed.

To the Worthy Master and Patrons of Grey Division Grange:

Your committee on Implements beg leave to report as follows: Your committee believe that agriculturists to keep abreast of the times, must avail themselves of the best labor-saving implements procurable. Your committee would especially desire to draw the attention of patrons to self-binders, which being extensively manufactured and distributed, and believe that no farmer, farming two hundred acres or upwards, can afford to be without one. And where farms are small two or more ought to join together and get one, as with a little forethought one would cost 200 to 300 acres of grain, and all in good season. Your committee would not recommend any one make as being superior to any others, as there are several being nearly equally good, but would advise careful inspection before purchasing. Your committee would also desire to draw the attention of patrons to a new style of plow now before the public, called by some the "Jointer." It is made by different manufacturers, and is somewhat different in construction from the old style, it having a clear cut of from 12 to 14 inches with no appreciably extra draught, cleaning in all soils and in all circumstances, and doing about 1/4 more work in a given length of time, it will also completely cover anything, covering the ground, such as stubble, manure, etc.

Moved by Bro Palmer, seconded by Bro Armstrong, that this report be received, adopted and engrossed on the minutes.—Passed.

**EDUCATIONAL REPORT.**

Your committee on Education are pleased to report an observable and increasing interest in this vital subject among our Granges and membership generally. The time has come when the farmer of our highly favored Dominion is becoming conscious of latent power of mind and what may be accomplished by him and for him through education. There is no reason certain why we may not possess a clear, incisive intellect as well as our proverbial "Bones and sinew." Let us be as one man in our determination to regain our lost position in society, as leaders, and be content no longer to be led, as lambs to the slaughter of our every interest and to be fed upon by the rapacious and wily politician and business. Our common school system is not favorable to the farmer in proportion to his numerical interest and taxation. We should have less aim to produce teachers and more to fit our sons and daughters for honorable labor and an intelligent management of the home and farm. We should have less taxation by dropping off all that savors of an unsecure office or that which is a burden to the farmer. Give us no local

superintendent and compel us to raise no taxes to form funds for municipal grants. Let the Department cease to have more care to provide for the teacher's pleasure by multiplied privileges than to seek the interest of those taught and those who have to pay. Our aim in this report is merely suggestion, as of necessity required by keeping in view our duty to economize the valuable time of this Grange. But we hope by raising a few points in the limited space of this report, and any expression of this Grange thereon, if favorable, may draw the attention of higher Granges, that they may more fully formulate our wishes and set forth more clearly the incompleteness of our present system to meet our wants, so that their influence with the Departments of Education may result in freeing our system from what is not necessary, and in granting us in the text books used a proper and just consideration, not as members of a mere business that required little mind and much muscle, but the honorable and influential calling of agriculture that is now met on the markets of the world by a tide of competition that calls for thorough and indeed professional training to meet with success.

All of which we submit.

(Signed) H. D. IRWIN, Chairman.  
B. WHITE,  
JOHN WEBER.

Moved by Bro Irwin, seconded by Bro Weber, that this report be received, adopted and engrossed in the minutes.

To the Worthy Master, Officers and Members of Grey Division Grange No. 2:

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that in view of the Scott Act being about to be submitted to the electors of this County, and from our opinion of the workings of the said Act in the counties in which it has been passed, your committee would recommend that this Division pledge their support in favor of said Act, and that the secretary be required to furnish the leading papers in this County with a copy of this report.

Moved by Bro J I Graham, seconded by Bro Wm McLoughry, that the above report be received and adopted.—Carried.

To the Members of Grey Division Grange:

We, your committee on Seed Grain, beg leave to report as follows: As fall wheat is the only seed grain that we have to notice at this season of the year, our labors will be light. The Clawson variety seems to be the most successful as yet, but your committee would suggest that if any member of this Grange has experimented with any other variety, that they report the result of their efforts to the Grange.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**MATHEW DENTON, Chairman.**  
Moved by Bro M Denton, seconded by Bro D Armstrong, that this report be adopted.—Carried.

**REPORT ON HORTICULTURE.**

To the Worthy Master and Members assembled in session Grey Division Grange:

Your committee regret to have to report the almost entire destruction of some of the best plum orchards in our district, by blight, which struck the trees last August, the leaves and fruit withering and falling off, followed by a severe winter which killed the weakened trees. While some supposed this blight was caused by minute insects too small to be observed by the naked eye; others believe it to have been caused by overbearing: too much fruit being allowed to set on the trees. One thing is certain, namely, the Washington and General Hand (both varieties which never overbear) have come through unscathed by this blight. The McLaughlin, another shy bearer, has been very slightly affected. The Ontario, an excellent new variety, a regular annual bearer seems to be proof against the blight, and has this year its usual crop. The Lombard and Dunnes Purple, our heaviest bearers, have suffered more than any other variety. Ordinary blue plums stood the blight, but are fast dying out with black knot. Your committee desire

to impress on our members the great importance of planting more small fruit, at least in sufficient quantities to supply every and all patrons homes. The strawberry in its season, followed by the raspberry, and in its turn, again followed by the Black Cap and Blackberry, the Grape, the Currant and the Gooseberry. We are pleased to know that the old days of pork and potatoes for breakfast, potatoes and pork for dinner, pork and potatoes for supper, are past and a new era is approaching when more delicious ripe fruit is being used in the household. Our small fruits are so easily canned and dried that there is no reason why there should not be fruit on the table of every patron the year round. Your committee are deeply impressed with the fact that at no distant day there will be an outlet to Europe by Hudson's Bay, bringing the North-West farmer many, many miles nearer Europe than we are, thus giving them the advantage in European markets, over us in grain and cattle, but with our improved facilities for shipment and rapid transportation there is no reason why our division may not for the present generation at least supply our fellow subjects in the North-West with large quantities of fruit. And your committee can only reiterate the sentiment conveyed in a former report, namely, that one or more co-operative canning and drying factories in our division, would be, in our estimation, a profitable enterprise: profitable to the owners and profitable to the fruit growers. To be successful in fruit growing, eternal care and vigilance are required. A wise selection of varieties and good cultivation, while we have many new varieties which promise great things to fruit growers, yet it is not wise to discard the old tried varieties, at least, not very many of them. Your committee have to report favorably of the wealthy Pewankie and American Pippin apples being perfectly hardy, long keepers and early bearers, and are of opinion they should be planted more largely than at present. For situations on the shores of Georgian Bay the fine old Baldwin and Rhode Island Greenings will succeed tolerably well if grafted in the limbs while they are tender on their own stocks. For Melancthon, Proton and other sections of our division, no apple will give better satisfaction than the Rambo, which is found in those townships thriving even when neglected in beaver meadows and low, wet, undrained situations where no other variety will succeed. Your committee desire to draw your attention to the fact that Pears on suitable soil and under careful cultivation succeeds admirably in our division; we may mention the 'Flemish Beauty', Bartlett, Dearborns Seedling, Duchess De-Angouleme and Vicar of Wakefield as amongst the most hardy and profitable. A stiff clay soil, well drained, is the home of the Pear, and the stiffer the clay the greater the success, provided it is thoroughly drained and sub-soiled. The careful fruit grower who cultivates the orchard, will succeed, provided he plants varieties suitable for his soil, while the careless cultivator will be met with disappointment continually.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**R. J. DOYLE,**  
**JOHN WEBER,**  
**DONALD ROBERTSON.**

Moved by Bro R J Doyle, seconded by Bro John Weber, that this report be received, adopted and engrossed on the minutes.—Carried.

**JOHN WEBER,**  
Secretary.

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