THE
Markdale Standard.

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C. W. RUTLEDGE,
Proprietor

MARKDALE, MAY 12, 1898

Co-Operative Agriculture

Over twenty-eight hundred Ontario farmers have received material and instructions for conducting tests upon their own farms during the present season. These include young men who have attended the Agricultural College, successful and pains-taking farmers who have experimented previously, and others who are undertaking the work for the first time.

About two thousand experimenters have conducted satisfactory experimental work within the past ten years. Of this number, over two hundred have furnished good reports for at least three different years and some for five, six and even nine years. These little experiment stations form object lessons in nearly every neighborhood in the province, the influence of which can never be correctly estimated. To give some idea of the influence, I quote the following from reports sent in by experimenters:

"I have benefited from my experiments in the following ways:—The plots are visited by farmers every year."

"I have got one or two experiments I would not have tried but for the tests and lectures on my farm."

"I have received financial profit from the experiments, and have received benefit from the general work in the neighborhood."

"I have received many hundred dollars' worth of information."

"The co-operative experiments in agriculture, which started at the Agricultural College and Farm in the autumn of 1888, is living and flourishing, and increasing in interest year to year. A large number of the experiments on different varieties of agricultural crops, different sections, are the main subject under experiment on about one thousand plots this year. Thousands of bushels of the different experiments, which combine the agricultural resources of the Province of Ontario, are distributed to the Province for experimental purposes, which is a great benefit to the farmers."

"We could furnish a number of splendid testimonials from each of the experimenters which would fill a large volume, but space forbids us to do more than make the above extracts."

"The Co-operative experiments in agriculture are certainly a grand success, and the results are of great benefit to the farmers of Ontario."

"The Co-operative experiments in agriculture are of great benefit to the farmers of Ontario, and I hope to see the system extended