

Onion Culture.

The first thing we want to get is good seed. Now, the seed may be good in a sense, that is, it may have vitality and come up well, but is it from good stock? Was the seed saved from selected bulbs, or from little and big? Then if the stock is good the seed will be good, and the produce from the seed will be good. But there are exceptions to this rule. If the summer is cool and wet, and onion patch on low ground, there will most likely be many thick necks amongst the crop. Well, so as to get along, we will presume the seed is good, and pass on to the next thing—the soil, the situation and condition. The first, if you can choose, have middling high laying land; or if low, see that it is well drained. As regards the second a good loamy soil is most desirable. We will suppose it is in good heart or condition, this is very necessary to secure a good crop. It is not often we hear of ground being too rich for onions. Forty or fifty loads of stable manure to the acre, which may be supplemented with ashes, ground bones, or hen manure, well pulverized, with a little earth mixed in, and use this for a top dressing. Year after year, if the manure is supplied, the ground will become more productive for this special crop. The rows may be left twelve inches apart, leaving every sixth row out for a path. Five or six pounds of seed will be required to the acre. If the seed can be relied upon don't sow very thick. An ounce or two of radish seed may be sown with each pound of seed. The radish will come up in a few days and mark the rows, so that a hand cultivator or hoe can do some weed destroying before the onions are up, and before the radish is in the road will be fit to use or sell. Now, after this, the most important point will be to keep the ground clear of weeds; without this is done there will be no profit from growing onions.

This magazine is edited by a practical man, who knows what he is talking about.

We would draw attention to the advertisement of Mr. Elcome, on another page. Our readers who may want anything in his line will find his work well and efficiently done, as we can speak well of his mechanical work and also of his artistic

powers, and there is a great deal in this latter clause, for the mechanical part may be well done, but unless the position in which the bird or animal may be placed is natural and lifelike the whole thing is a failure. Personal enquiries will be readily answered by applying at Mason's Seed and Plant House. All communications by mail direct to E. ELCOME, Box 424, Peterborough.

Very Fine Open Winter in England.

Just as we go to press a letter has dropped in to us from Mr. J. Comont, who is connected with the gigantic seed establishment of Messrs. James Carter & Co., London, in which are employed 200 hands. After speaking in a very flattering way about our Magazine, and asking to be put down as a subscriber, says that they "have had a very open winter, no frost to speak of, and the first fall of snow yesterday (22nd March) of about four or five inches, but it soon melted away." Dear, dear, how thankful we Canadians should be that when we have a fall of snow it sticks, it stops, it lingers. Yet we think it lingers a little bit too much. And from reading our proof sheets, think that "Rambler" fellow, writing in this number of our Magazine, is a fit subject for the lunatic asylum, talking about bursting buds and blooming flowers out doors, and any amount of snow yet on the ground. If not demented, he came out a month too soon.

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS.

(Continued from January Number.)

Cowslip or Primrose—Unconscious beauty.

Winning grace.

Crab blossom—Ill nature.

Cranberry—Cure for the heartache.

Crape Myrtle—Eloquence.

Crepis—Pretensions.

Cress—Stability.

Crocus, garden—Cheerfulness.

Crocus Sativa, *Saffron*—Beware of excess.

Crowfoot—Ingratitude.

Crown Imperial—Majesty. Power.

Cuphea—Oddity.

Currants—You please me.

Cuscuta, *Dodder*—Meanness.

Cyclamen—Diffidence.

Cydonia Japonica, *Japan Quince*—Fairies' fire. Delusion.