

but my neighbors became impatient, and declared if I did not let it out they would steal it. I therefore exhibited it at Kingston last fall, and intend to let it out to the public this year; and as I have only grown it experimentally, and not as a farmer, I have only a limited quantity; and as one gallon, is sufficient to sow one acre, and wishing it to be as widely diffused as possible during the first year of its general cultivation, I propose to charge \$2 per gallon which is a trifle in advance of the cost of the common barley sown to the acre *viz* 2 bushels. The product of a gallon will be far more than any farmer can sow, the ensuing year, I wish to get it into as many hands as possible, and over as wide a space. During the summer I will give ample notice through the press, that all who feel interested in it may come and see it growing, and judge for themselves of its interest; in fact, it must then tell its own story, and not me; which I beg to assure you, will be to me by far the most satisfactory mode: for it does certainly assume more similitude to what is usually designated a "Fish Story," to say one gallon of seed can be made to produce 80 bushells, than to a sober matter of fact; but it is none the less so.

I must pray you to excuse the inordinate length of this statement; and

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully.

CHS. CHAPMAN.

To the Editor of the *Farmer's Journal*.

CULTURE OF THE ONION.

EDS. CO. GENTLEMAN.—There is in the "Co. Gent." an enquiry for "a good article on the culture of the Onion." The answer comes in an article by J. W. Proctor of Essex, Mass, but as the onion is very largely cultivated in this vicinity, many farmers raising from two to twelve acres, and as our mode of cultivation may differ somewhat from that of Mr. P., I have concluded to write you a short article on the subject.

1. The ground selected for onions should be the *best* on the farm, as free from stones as possible; and it should be made very rich by the application in large quantities of the best manure to be had. We have lately practiced plowing in our manure in the fall, and then in the spring we harrow thoroughly, and give a top-dressing of some bought manure—guano, bone-dust, or whatever we prefer. In this way we can sow our seed from one to two weeks earlier than if plowed in the spring, and experience shows this to be very important. Whether plowed in spring or not, the ground must be well harrowed—every stone or any other obstruction picked carefully off, and then made very smooth and level with a hand rake. Extra care in the preparation of the ground is amply repaid in the after cultivation.

2. When the ground is ready, we sow our seed, using a small machine which sows two rows at a time as fast as a man can walk. This machine is made near here, and I have never seen it in the agricultural stores. To the onion grower it is invaluable. The seed after being deposited in the drills, is covered by *pushing* a common hoe along the row, very lightly and carefully. The covering is sometimes done by a board attached to the machine, but I do not think in as perfect a manner.

If the weather is favorable, the plants will be up in about three weeks, and then the labor of cultivation begins. Our rows are *twelve inches* apart, and we use, for the space between the rows, very narrow hoes, about nine inches wide, and so narrow that the earth will run freely over without *moving along* in front.