

in Quincy Market forty per cent. higher than any other berry offered in the week.

We are indebted to Messrs. Parker & Wood, dealers in plants, seeds, agricultural implements and machines, 49 North Market Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A., for the electrotype of this remarkable new strawberry, which was engraved from a photograph. We were not able to procure a colored plate for our illustration, but in all other respects this engraving will enable our readers to form a correct idea of the appearance of this new strawberry.

QUESTION DRAWER.

HOW TO GROW ONIONS.

Can you inform me in your next number the best method for raising good black seed Onions. I am so much pleased with your magazine I would not like to be without it.

Lakeside, Oxford Co. SAM. A. COLE.

REPLY.—To grow good Onions it is important that we select suitable soil and have it properly prepared. The best soil for Onions is a deep, rich, loamy, mellow soil, on a dry bottom, that is well underdrained either naturally or artificially. The Onion will not thrive in a wet, cold ground. A sandy loam that is strong enough to raise good crops of corn or potatoes, will make an excellent ground for Onions. In making your selection of a place for growing them, give preference to one that has been previously well fertilized and tilled with hoed crops and kept clean—such as has raised a fine crop of beets or carrots.

Prepare the ground by ploughing, harrowing it thoroughly, breaking up all lumps, and making it as fine and light as possible. Manure it with fine, thoroughly rotted barn-yard manure, at the rate of twenty-five tons to the acre, adding all the cleanings of the pig-stye, poultry-house and earth-closet that can be spared, and work these into the surface with the harrow. If you can procure them, sow the ground with fine ground bones, at the rate of a couple of tons to the acre, for Onions being an exception to the general rule of rotation in crops, you will find the bones of great benefit for more than one year. If you wish to grow enormous specimens that will take the prizes at our Agricultural Shows, you will find nothing better than to dress that part of your Onion field with a barrel or two of well-rotted onions, in addition to your other fertilizers.

The surface of the ground should be finished off as nearly level as possible, and cleaned entirely of stones, sticks, or rubbish. If you wish to grow on a large scale sow the seed with a machine made for the purpose, which sows two rows at once, making the drills, sowing the seed and covering at one operation. If you only require enough for home use, you can make the drills by hand about a foot or fifteen inches apart, sowing the seed thinly, say about an inch apart in the drill. The drills should be very shallow, mere scratches into which to drop the seed, and the covering is best done with a light roller run over the ground lengthwise of the drills.