## THE COLUMBIAN AND DEMOCRAT, BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA.

as much money esu be obtained from an acre of land in onions as from a forty-acre farm devoted to the usual crop. At present prime onlong are worth \$4 per barrel by the car-load, and two hundred and fifty barrels may be, and not unfrequently are produced from an acre of land. Let not one however expect to realize a thousand dollars from an acre of onions who does not pay the best attention to the crop. To begin with, land naturally adapted to producing the crop should be selected. Experiments made in the castern states, where large quantities of onions are raised for the southern market show that there is no better soil for onions than that of a reclaimed bog. Of curse the land must be well drained and the surface soil decomposed by exposure to the action of the atmosphere: Most of our black prairie soils are suitable to the production of onlops if they are rightly treated. The turf must become entirely rotted and mixed with the earth below. Land that has been in pesture for several years is easily prepared for a crop of onlons, as the toof is compacatively thin, while the soil is quite free from weeds. That portion of a pasture in which cattle and sheep lie at night may be converted into an onion patch to an excellant ad-

If there are elevations in it the soil on them will be likely to wash away, carrying off the seed before it germinates, or leaving part of the onions exposed to the sun, A pieze of land intended for onions should be e stirely free from seeds of weeds in the start and there should be a determination on the part of the grower to allow none to attain any considerable size. Absolutely clever cuiture is essential to producing a paying crop of onions. Neglect in this matter will caus a vast amount of work, which will not, after all, insure a good crop of onioni. A field of onlons can not be neglected on account of a demand for labor on other parts of the farm. Unless a farmer has help that car attend to his field of onions during the sea son of plowing corn cutting grass, and har vesting grains, it will be better not to attempt to raise the crop at all. The care of onions, however calls for light work, which which may be chiefly performed by old mer partial invalids, women and children. Per sons whe cannot perform heavy work on the farm may engage in onion raising to excellent advantage.

ing crop of onions on land that is very highly manured. From thirty to fifty loads o manure should be applied to an acre of land designed for producing this crop. It should be well rotted and free from the seed of grass and weeds. Unleached ashes form a valuable addition to composted stable manure. After a piece of land has been prepared for onions it is best to continue the crop for a series of years. As onions are gross feeders it will, of course, be necessary to apply a coating of manure every season

pulvarized and the manure thoroughly incorporated with it. After it is plowed and harrowed a roller should be used for crushing the lumps,

thinning the soil before the seed is sown. About four pounds of seed are required for an acre. It should be the product of the previous season. The seed may be tested by counting out a certain number and placing them on some moist cotton laid in a saucer If good, it will germinate in three or four days. The seed should be sown as early in the spring as it is possible to prepare the





