

Draft of a letter to Benjamin F. Greene from John A. Thomson [transcript]

with some indirect expenses when rec'd at Catskill, they had
cost me \$45 for this I rec'd a small box about 6 inches by 12
containing just fifteen very moderate sized potatoes put up in
a bed of ashes- very much shrunk & enervated, by detention & long
voyage they did not arrive in N. Y. until the last of April in
the spring of 1856- notwithstanding the lateness of the season
and some sickness in their cultivation, my produce from this
potato was at the rate of 40 bush¹ from one bush¹. You may
have seen'd in the "Cultivator" a statement made by Judge
Bull, of an experiment of his (this summer past, 1857) from
18 lb of this Potato the produce of which very greatly exceeded
mine, & I know of ^{no} reason, (all circumstances being favorable) why
they may not produce from 50 to 60 bush¹ from one, I do not
however anticipate that they will arrive to the great weight
mentioned in France, viz 14 lb. I think our seasons for
cultivation, are not sufficiently long, from the knowledge I
now have, of the productiveness & superiority of the Rohan
Potato I should be perfectly willing to say all they have met
me for my own use only, & to fact any unprofit, from the sale of ^{the same} them,
was the least of my anticipations when I imported them, you will
please on the Recd^t of this, inform me whether you wish to
increase or diminish, as to quantity, your Order, as I have now
several similar orders on hand from various parts of the U.
States, & wish to know definitely, what quantity to enter in
such order, to be deliver'd next spring, I have only a limited
number of bush¹ now on hand to dispose off.

Page two of a typed copy of a draft letter written by John A. Thomson to Benjamin F. Greene regarding the shipment and market prices of Rohan potatoes. Thomson was a well-known grower of that species of potato on his Catskill farm. Original draft is contained within the Family papers.

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Greene County (is associated with)