

## 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 bush<sup>1</sup> from one bush<sup>1</sup>. 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 <sup>no</sup> reason, (all circumstances being favorable) why  
they may not produce from 50 to 60 bush<sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>the same</sup> them,  
was the least of my anticipations when I imported them, you will  
please on the Recd<sup>t</sup> 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 bush<sup>1</sup> 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)