

New Lisbon Sept 22d 1840

Dear Uncle

I have your letter of the 11th Inst which speaks of the grass seed you sent me some time since and I cannot but think yet is not as clean as could be. but as I cannot obtain any up here I should be very thankfull for five more bushels. or less if that quantity cannot be obtained.

I would submit to you a few facts from which you can form a judgment of the state of ... llow ground for the reception of grass seed.. their tillage. manuring and draining. first the field bounded by the H. road and railroad was planted in corn last year (by Mr Gibbs.) was manured in the hill finally sown with rye in the fall. now I have made an early fallow of it give it about thirty bushels of lime per acre and from twelve to fourteen load per acre of good rotten manure, next Hewies meadow has been ditched on all sides. the new ground all broken up. we are now braking it up the whole field in twenty feet ridges. and we have a lime kiln full of lime that will go on it soon. and I forgot to mention we hauled away that high bank long the side of the lower ditch which prevented the water reaching it. the field now is a mass of w. clover. green oats from what has rattled out. all of which I have let grow untill this time and in my judgment will be equal to half a coat of manure. this much I have done. I know it surpasses any thing Mr Gibbs done for his grass fields. I also know that he raised no grass but a spear would come here and there and let the increase of spears be preportion to the additional labour my grass crop will by threebled.

I (sic) object in writing to you was to inform you that the ditch through the county swamp has been opened 6 feet at top. and four feet in the bot- tom for which I have agreed to pay fourty cents per rod. and there is 89 rods which makes the whole cost \$35.60 cts. the same man is opening the mane drain through the meadows for which I am to pay him 20 cts per rod. I have also had 474 loads of marl raised for which I payed the usual price $12\frac{1}{2}$ per load making the whole cost \$59.25. this quantity I thought suffi- cient to raise at one time for if it laise long exposed to heavy rains a quantity will be waseted. and I can get it raised any time in the winter.

These men require some pay soon judging from the from (sic) the pressing calls they have made and I also would like to buy some sheep and steers to fatten soon. and the last farthing of that you give when here has gone.

The last time I received lime stone we did receive as much as we will want before early next spring. which will be two kilns, neathere have we re- ceived any plaster. and you know what an uncertain thing that railroad is in the spring. I am affraid I shall not receive it . if it does not arrive beforeⁱⁿ the cars stop running this fall. at least. I mean before it is to late the season

Night before last uncle and Aunt Saltar. Ann and Ann Burton arrived here. which makes us quite a house full. and without they stay untill after sowing they will have to stay at home because I am behind all my neighbours. and a great share to do yet. and you would oblige by sending that seed with Mr Soon as soon as possible. I hope I shall have the pleasure of

seeing you again this fall. that you may see for yourself what I have
done. and know that I am of the same oppinion with yourself as to good
farming. at least I would trust so. With love to all I remain
your nephew

James A Fenwick