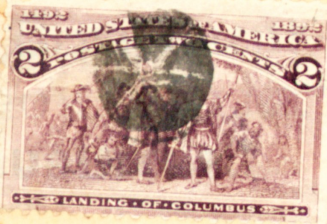


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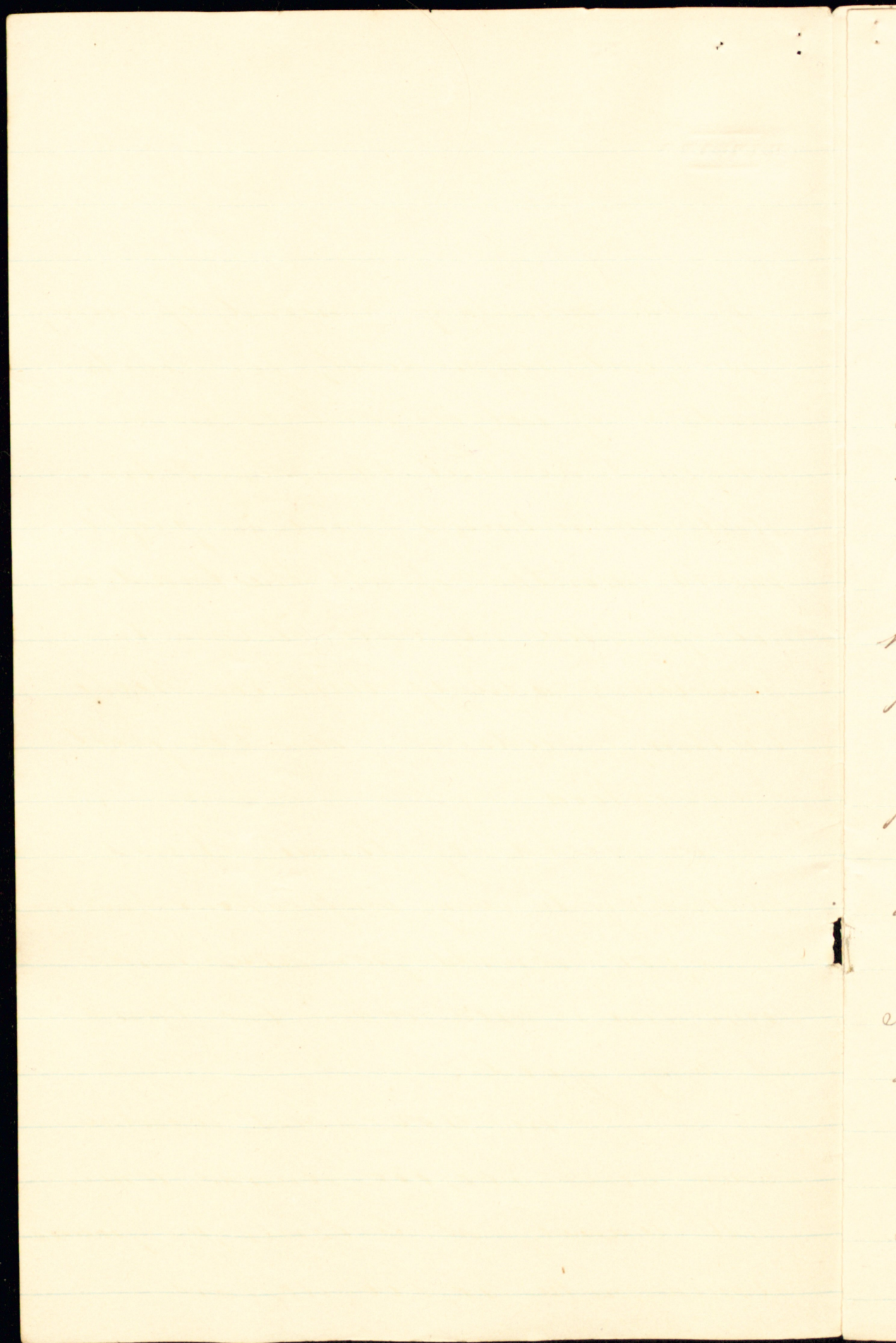
Plantation of Ramie  
of 400 acres.

The plantation should be if possible on good alluvion land not wet. near Railroad or Steamer Connections, there should be if possible on it some Buildings and a Dwelling house. and soft water.

The lease should be made for 3, 6, or 9 Years with option to purchase the property for a price mentioned in the lease at any time untill the End of the lease

The probable rent of such property would be about \$1,200 (twelve hundred dollars)

The 400 acres could be planted and in full yield in <sup>less than</sup> two Years



if the necessary amount of money is spent immediately for Roots Seeds & if not, it will take a longer time but the plantation will nevertheless give a profit in 18 months, if all the land is not planted at once it can be planted gradually with the Roots Cuttings seeds & from the first plantation

The Yield of Ramie Slivers according to every indications given is 2,000 pounds per acre. and some times more when the land is very good.

The 400 acres would then give 800,000 pounds which sell readily at 5 cents per pound would make 40,000 dollars

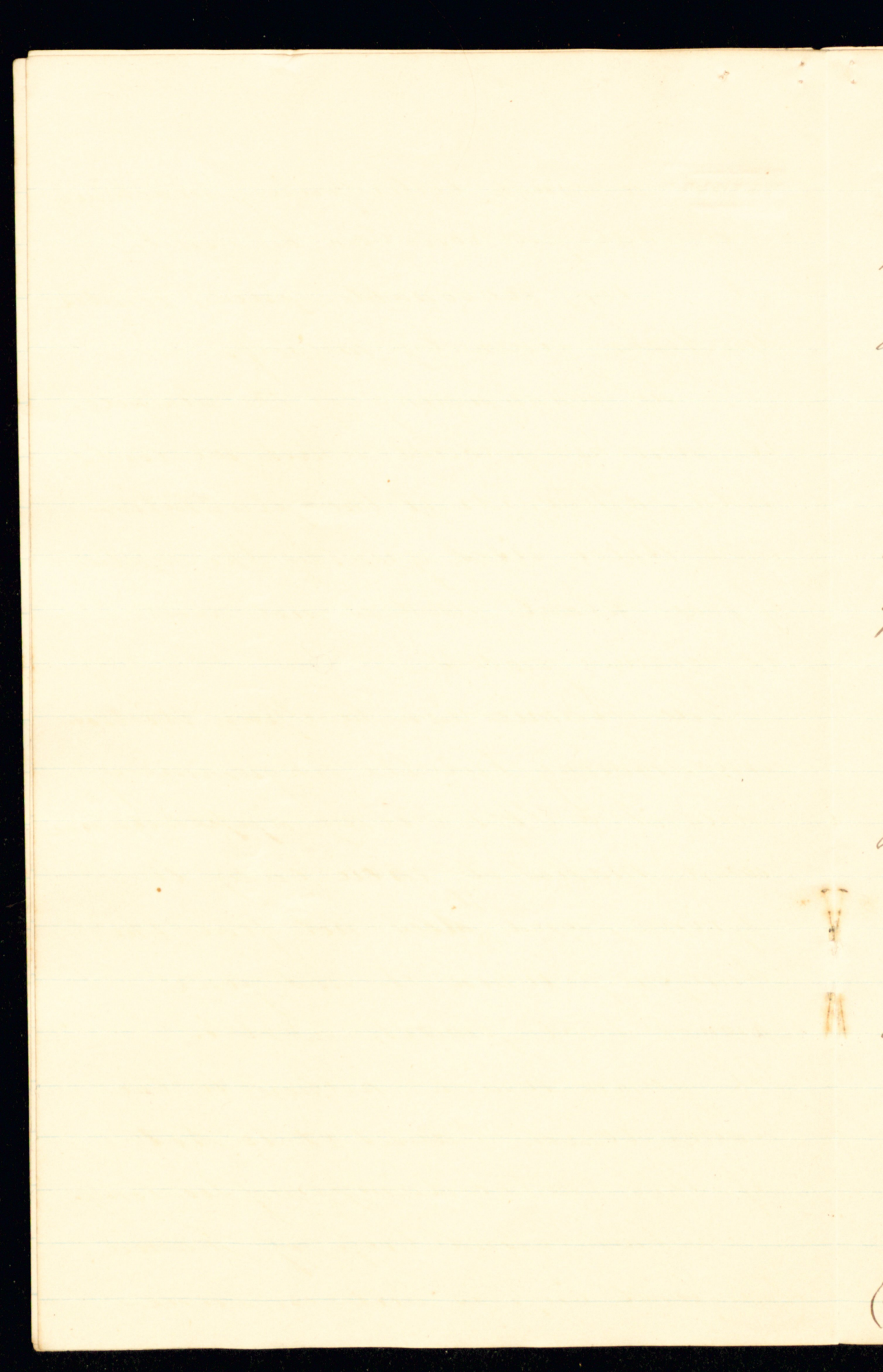


(Forty thousand dollars)

The expense of Cutting  
Drying and decorticating such  
a quantity would be at 1 1/2  
Cent (one and one half cent) per pound  
12,000 dollars to which must  
be added Rent interest of money  
insurance taxes, and wear and  
tear.

The decorticating machines we  
have at present would be sufficient  
for the Beginning but we would  
require two or three more machines,  
when in full work. ~~and~~ a  
Steam Engine & Boiler. and  
Shafting, and a strong Packing  
press for Bales.

If the Pellicle of the Ramie  
is taken off, the Ramie will sell



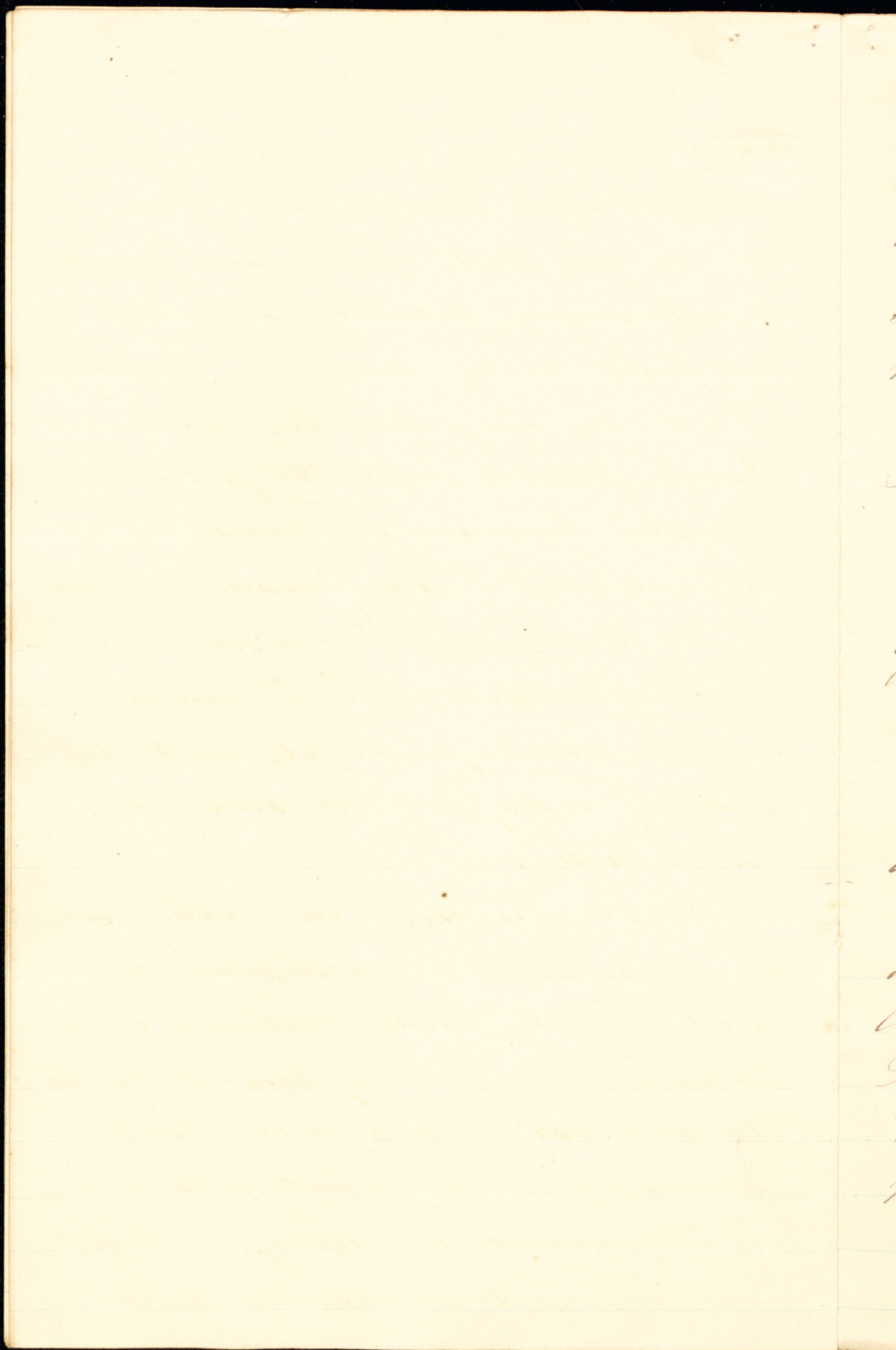


at a much better price, machinery for that purpose can be made at a very reasonable price, under directions given by myself.

The ungumming of the Ramie is another process which we could add afterwards to the plantation and which rises greatly the value of the plant and is not an expensive process.

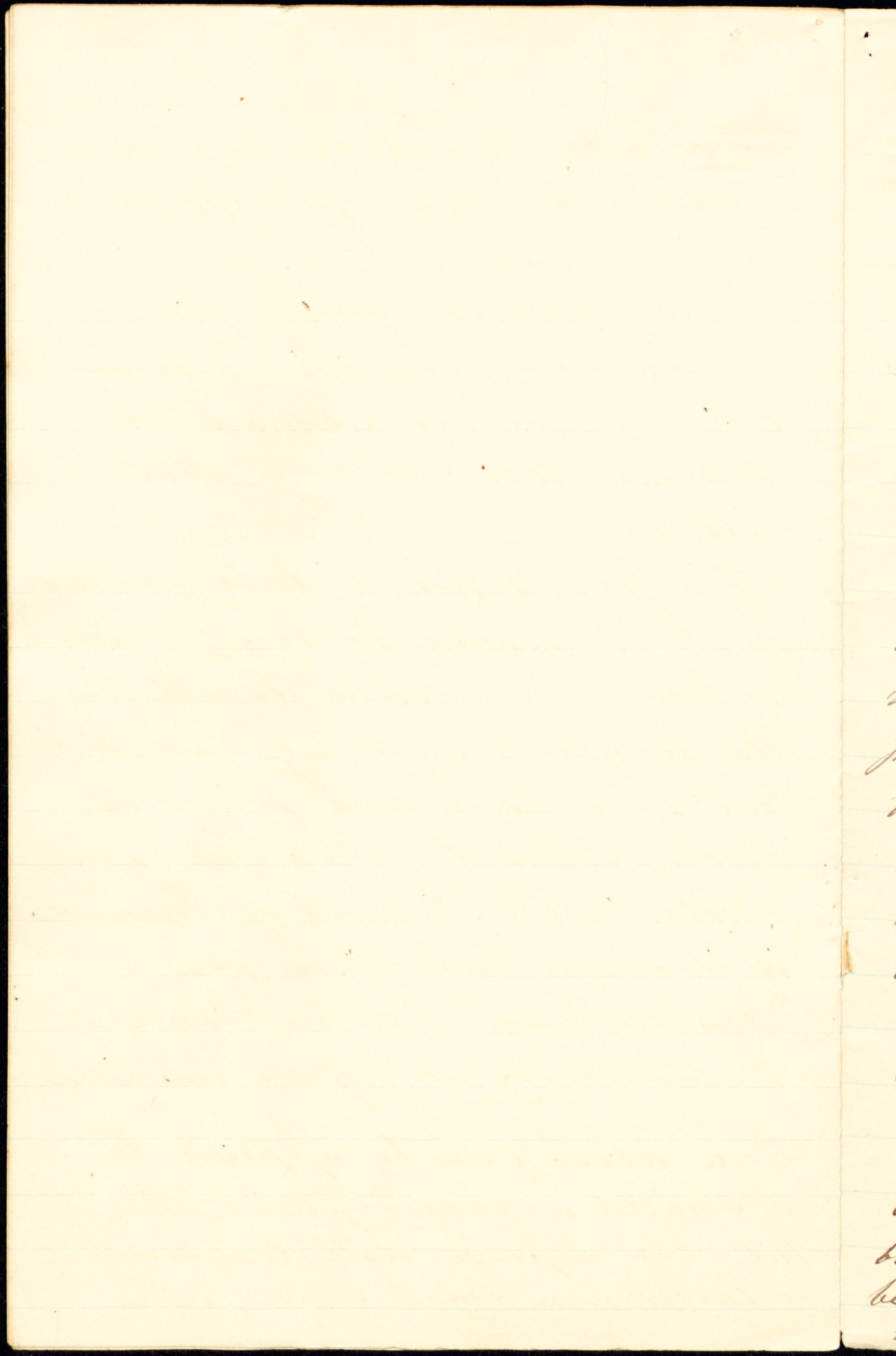
The Ramie can be spun without ungumming but the ungumming gives it a soft silky appearance and makes it more easy to spin, and <sup>it</sup> does not fear the dampness when it has gone through that process, as it is the gum which adhere to the Ramie which causes it to rot if left in the dampness too long.

in the second crop of Ramie (the first crop is cut in June



the Second Crop at the later end of September) there is often five to six per cent of Ramie which is not easily decorticated on the machines being nearly as small as a knitting needle, such Ramie passed over the pellicle machine becomes as good as the rest, as I have made a trial of it at Terni, <sup>Italy</sup> on a Gute Softening machine which is very much on the same principle but not exactly adapted for breaking the pellicle.

Several Spinners in Lille and at Armentieres asked me if I could supply them regularly with Ramie Fibers, as they would make the necessary changes to their machinery to suit that article; if they could be sure of a regular supply, but it would be



6

preferable to sell the crop in America. we would perhaps obtain a better price.

The machine coming from France has several improvements which should be added to the machine which is a the tool works

If a plantation is to be started in 1887 it would be well to lose no time as we could do all the planting in the Spring and it will take some time to get the roots, I think I can get some roots in the Island of Jamaica it is of the best kind the "Jenacissimus" I saw some stalks at the New Orleans exhibition

The above can be applied to a smaller or larger plantation but the expense will comparatively be larger for a small than for a large plantation

