

In reference to attempts which have been made to ascertain whether it can be had nearer home, the Editor remarks, that "the results of our observations compel us to the belief that, in our latitudes, although they may be frequented by marine birds in sufficient numbers to make the deposit; yet that deposit, without the drought and heat of more tropical climates, loses all those chemical properties on which its fertility depends." We also think, with the editor, that the Provincial Legislature might do worse than encourage the importation of guano from the coast of Africa. "African guano in Charlotte-town costs £5 currency per ton. A small vessel of two hundred tons, by way of experiment, might receive for her cargo, nearly £700 sterling, and supply the means of fertilising 2000 acres, at a rate of 2 cwt. per acre, to cost 5s. per cwt. or 10s. per acre."

The best directions we have seen for the preservation and application of this manure, are given in an article published in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, which we copy for the benefit of the farmers of Nova-Scotia.

"Guano is not the better for coming from Africa or Peru, for those countries have plenty of the substance of no value whatever. Its goodness depends not upon its foreign origin, but upon its chemical condition; and nothing but analysis can show that Guano, when good, ought to be of a light brown, or fawn colour, dry and powdery, not sticky or clammy to the touch, and the lumps when broken, showing numerous small clear, shining crystals; and giving out a strong smell of ammonia, when mixed with a little quick lime, and moistened with water. Guano should be kept dry, as damp renders it liable to decomposition and the loss of ammonia."

"It has been observed that Guano, and other concentrated manures, are valuable chiefly, as a means of creating farm yard manure, which will ever prove the farmer's sheet anchor."

"Moisture appears to be necessary to the action of Guano. The past spring has been uncommonly dry in England, and it was observed in a field which Mr. Hubbersty, of Wirksworth, in Derbyshire, had set apart for the trial of experiments, with ten different manures, that, the land manured with Guano and Charcoal, had not only equalled that on which the other manures had been applied, but totally outstripped the portion manured with farm yard manure, while that to which Guano alone was applied had not kept pace with the farm yard manure lot, in consequence of the want of rain."

The Island of Ichaboe, notwithstanding the effluvia emitted from the guano, is very healthy; which may be presumed from the fact that at one period although there were no less than 35 ships lying off the island, the crews comprising about 700 men, most of whom were enduring exceedingly laborious employment in that hot region, not more than five or six cases of sickness occurred, and these were complaints of the lungs.

Although the value of Guano has been but recently brought into notice, it appears that Bird Manure has been long ago in use; but whether it was of the same description as the Guano of the present time, we have not the means of judging. From the commentaries of the Inca Garcilaso de la vega, a native of Cosco (the ancient capital of Peru) and a Captain in the service of the King of Spain—published in the year 1604, that is 72 years after the conquest of Peru, by