

REPORT.

To the Honorable,

The House of Delegates of Maryland.

In obedience to your order, the undersigned herewith submits a report, embracing the information required by the same.

CLASSIFICATION AND GRADES OF GUANO.

By authority of the law passed by the Legislature at its session in 1854, the undersigned arranged and classified in distinct tables, the different varieties and qualities of Guano then imported, and has since made such additions as were necessary to embrace all subsequently received.

The varieties and grades as now adopted, and which have become the standards of inspection, are as follows:

1. PERUVIAN GUANO.

Peruvian Guano is exported by the Peruvian government to this country, from the Chincha islands, a small group lying off the port of Pisco, on the Peruvian coast, where it is deposited in large quantities. They are known as the North, Middle and South Islands, the supply here being received from the two former.

Located as these islands are, in a position where it never rains, the Guano remains in immense beds undecomposed, and hence its great value as a fertilizer depends upon the abundance of the elements it contains capable of forming ammonia, while its phosphoric acid though not so great as in other varieties, contributes essentially to its fertilizing qualities.