

kind a much less quantity, costing a much less price, would have produced equal results. Let the best guano sell for its value; but an inferior article should never be allowed, under state authority, to be sold for the same price. I know that our farmers and planters do not object to pay for any article its full value; but they do object to pay for any thing more than it is really worth. They do object to pay for any inspection when that inspection is no protection to them; when instead of giving them light, it leads them, by its utter worthlessness, into error. Is there necessity for any inspection? I have before stated that it is the bounden duty of the state to protect its citizens from loss or wrong, whether that wrong be effected by superior force or by superior knowledge. The state has acknowledged this by the appointment of inspectors of many articles in common use; the duty of these being to protect the less skilful in their dealings, by showing the real or relative value of the different articles inspected. The merchant can very easily afford to have his cargo analysed, and thus know its real value; but the purchasers of small quantities of guano cannot do this, because of its expense. The merchant can thus know the value of the article he is selling; this the purchaser cannot know without great inconvenience and expense, and thus the former will always have an advantage over the latter. The state then should show to the latter what is the value of what he is buying, and thus interpose her knowledge to save him from loss. I do not consider it worth your time further to argue this question. The abolition of state inspections elsewhere is well known to have opened the door to immense frauds, and we have no reason to believe that a different result would follow here. Neither shall I pretend to answer the objections which some have urged against this inspection, on account of its alleged impossibility.

Samples can be taken to represent all the different cargoes, or different parts of the same cargo, with as much facility as samples can be taken of any thing else, and when taken they can be accurately estimated, and their true value shown.

Every bushel of wheat is not weighed in order to show its weight, but only a sufficient number fairly to represent a cargo.

In England we have seen that adulterations have taken place of this article, and care should be taken to prevent the possibility of it here. I have not yet seen any evidence of adulteration on the part of our guano dealers; but others of less integrity may become dealers, and impose on our citizens if they be not prevented. The differences which exist in guano may depend on the difference in its location; that part exposed to the action of water will be less valuable. We have seen, moreover, that some of the deposits are covered with sand; this cannot be separated conveniently by the vessels whilst loading; but the purchaser here should not pay for it. Whatever may be the cause, whether from