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J. J. BRUNER, Editor & Proprietor.



DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAPE."

NEW SERIES. VOLUME IX-NUMBER 2.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1852.

Improvement of Poor Lands in Vir- ently with their thorough incorporation ginia.

The Hon. Willoughby Newton, furnish es the following interesting communica tion to the American Farmer:

LINDEN, WESTM'D COUNTY, VA. August 10, 1851.

To the Editor of the American Farmer :- I, to day, finished threshing the crop of wheat on this farm, and, in compliance with my promise, proceed to give you the result. The farm contains three hundred and eighty acres, (380) and was purchased about fifteen years ago at \$4 an acre, a a price deemed high for "forest land." In a hopeful spirit, which I like to encourage in myself as well as in others, as not only conducive to success, but essential to happiness, I ventured to say of it, in the ad dress delivered in October last, before the Agricultural Society of Maryland, "the whole cost of the farm was \$1520, and have good reason to expect, with a favor the season, from the crop now sown and dressed with guano, a bushel of wheat for every dollar of the prime cost of the farm.' This was no doubt, deemed by many, a very extravagant expectation, and was probably set down to the credit of an over sanguine temper. The actual result, however, has far transcended even my hopes, the yield being 2070 from 102 bushels of seed, or over 20 for one throughout the entire crop. Forty six bushels were sowed on clover fallow, and yielded 1040, or about 221 for one. There were two varieties of wheat, the blue stem white, and Ruffin's early purple straw. The blue stem was sowed on the fallow and the better part of the corn land, and produced from 80 bushels of seed 1668 bushels. The early purple straw was sowed on poor corn land, neither limed, nor otherwise improv ed, than by the single dressing of guano, and from 22 of seed yielded 402 bushels. The whole expenditure for this crop in guano, was about \$400, and it was applied to both fallow and corn land in pro portion to its supposed strength at from 120 to 210 lbs. to the acre.

It will be thus seen that I derived from this single crop not only "a bushel of wheat for every dollar of the prime cost of the farm," but have also the seed re turned and 448 bushels to reimburse the money expended in the guano, to say no thing of the large quantity of straw and the greatly improved condition of the land. Besides the profit derived from the wheat, the farm furnishing an abundance of milk and butter, fruit, vegetables, and fuel for a very large family, and will produce of corn this year, about 1000 bushels; with every prospect of a great annual increase for the future. I leave you to calculate the profit of such an investment.

I have heard of larger yields from small lots dressed with guano this year, on land similar to mine, but I am not aware of any instance where as much as one hundred bushels were sowed, on any one farm of like quality, where the yield has been as great. I therefore infer, that although there may be no peculiar merit in my mode of applying guano, it cannot be very defective, and as it is a subject of great importance, about which there is considerable diversity of opinion, I take occasion to state my practice. The guano, after being sifted and reduced to proper fineness, is carried to the field in bags in the dry state, empty barrels are placed at convenient distances for the sower, and each bag in turn emptied into a barrel and mixed with water until it is wet enough to be sowed without blowing away. It usually takes a common bucketful to a bag. This is the only addition to the guano, and the water is used for convenience of the sowers, without reference to any virtue to be derived from the mixture, though probably in a dry season that may be attended with benefit. The guano is sowed as evenly as possible, on the surface of the rough fallow; and to ensure its equal distribution (the land having been previously laid off by furrows at 10 feet distance) it is sowed twice over. A heavy harrow immediately follows, which partially intermixes the guano with the surface soil, and prepares the land to receive the seed, which is then sowed and put in with the common shoe horn cultivator, followed by heavy harrows, which finish the operation. The guano is thus right basis. If one has a light, sandy, thoroughly incorporated with the soil, and open soil, coarse manure, like straw, corn neither remains upon the surface nor is stalks and forest leaves, buried moderateburied too deep. Experience and obser- ly deep, are apt to remain undecomposed vation have taught us, that all coarse for many months, in which case they manures should be applied on the surface, yield no food to a needy crop, but operate and all fine manures, not excepting gua-

with the soil. My countryman, Mr. L. Washington, a farmer of great intelligence and observation, informed me that he buried guano, a few years ago, deeply, with the plough, for wheat. The crop was not very much benefitted, and the next year, when the land was prepared for corn, a large part of the guano was turned up entirely unchanged. On corn land my practice has been either to turn both wheat and guano in together with a light furrow, or to put in the guano first circulation of plants, it should be near with a light plow, and to cover the wheat with a harrow. I have not perceived any Manure on the surface occupies such a material difference in the result. In this, as in all other matters on the farm, convenience and saving of time should be regarded.

my childhood to the present time, and I of wheat in any one year, until I com- pass a roller over the surface after the menced improving it. I purchased it seed is sown to bring the loose earth and merely as a healthy site for a residence, vegetable substances applied as manure, without the remotest idea of ever deriving into close contact. A seed vegetates soona profit in money from it. For six or eight er if the soil be slightly compressed ayears, I did not deem any part of it capa gainst it; but if it be surrounded with a ble of producing wheat, and none was thin layer of impervious clay which exfrom year to year, has been very remark- nate. able. The first crop sowed was a total failure, not worth threshing, and was used bushels; the 3d, by the use of one ton of may be cultivated profitably with it.yielded 220 bushels; the 4th, from an ex- come into general use, and all cities car penditure of one hundred dollars in African Guano, (a very inferior article) produced 320 bushels; the fifth, from an expenditure of \$200 in very poor Patagonian Guano produced 540 bushels; the sixth, from an expenditure of \$300 partly in Peruvian and partly in Patagonian Guano, yielded 1089 hushels; the seventh and last, from \$400 expended in Peruvian Guano, produced the crop stated in the first part of this communication.

During this period, nearly all the arable land has been limed, at the rate of 25 to 50 bushels to the acre, and the rotation changed as rapidly as circumstances would permit from the old three shift system to the five field fallow system of the Pamun key. The land has improved, if possible, more rapidly than the crops, and I have no doubt, will, with judicious management and a small annual expenditure in manures, go on to produce increased crops of grain and grass, until the ultimate point of production of the most fertile soils is reached.

In this improvement, every dollar expended has been refunded with profit, in the crops of each year, and the farm is certainly intrinsically worth now, more than ten times its cost.

These results are surely most encouraging, and should urge the farmers, especially the young farmers of Eastern Virginia, to devote their energies to the improvement of the soil, as the surest road to competence, if not to fortune. Unfortunately, we have not among us capital and labor sufficient for the full development of the resources of the country --Much of the land must, of necessity, remain unimproved, unless our young men remain at home, or we can derive population and capital from other quarters. from general observation, and I predict as its early destiny, universal improvement.

But I must forbear. I commenced to give you a few facts, and I find myself in dulging in an essay. With best wishes for your success in the noble enterprise in which you are engaged. I remain very WILLOUGHRY NEWTON. truly yours,

REMARKS.—It will be seen that both Mr. Newton and Mr. Washington, fully sustain all that we said about covering guano in the soil; views to which Mr. Solon Robinson took exceptions. We can not entirely agree with Mr. Newton where he says that "all coarse manures should be applied on the surface." With farmers that use a good deal of manure, this is a matter of no little importance, and we shall endeavor to place it on the to make the ground still more dry and pono, as near the surface as may be, consist- rous to the injury of growing plants.

In all soils where such a result is likely council for the coming campaign. Let to follow, " coarse manures" should either be spread on the surface, as Mr. N. suggests, or buried so deeply with the plow in compliance with the usual prescription. as to secure sufficient moisture to rot it within a reasonable time. Covering the earth with leaves, straw, or coarse manure, is eminently calculated to keep the surface moist by checking evaporation, which is of great importance in warm climates subject to protracted dry weather. So far as any manure yields soluble elements which water conveys into the enough to their roots for this to take place. position, but not so fully and favorably as when thoroughly incorporated with the soil. On all loam and clay lands, there is no danger from the mixture of an ordi-I have been familliar with this farm from nary allowance of coarse manure with the tilled earth, that the manure will not have no recollection of its ever having rot sooner in the ground than upon it. In produced as much as twenty-five bushels nearly all cases, however, it is best to owed. The progress of the wheat crop cludes atmospheric air, it can not germi-

We are not without hopes that Peruvian guano may soon become somewhat as litter for stables. The 2d yielded 56 cheaper, so that all poor lands in the South African Guano and some lime and ashes, Concentrated manures are destined to supply them in quantities.

> REMARKS OF MR. BANKS. OF FAYETTEVILLE,

On presenting the resolution complimentary to Mr. Clay.

Mr. President: I never attend a Whigh meeting, much less a Whig State Convention, but I think of my first love-Henry Clay-whose generous and patriotic sentiments won my early affection, and whose matchless eloquence for half a century has been the admiration of friends and foes.

Disease has laid its hand upon him and prostrated his physical powers. He still lives, but it is as a link between the pressent and the past. I cannot forget him and if I could, the compromising spirit of the members who compose this Convention would remind me of him.

Sir, my heart almost misgives me when remember, that he who so long stood a tower of strength in the councils of the nation, is now under the afflictive hand of divine Providence, emaciated, enfeebled, and the occupant of a sick chamber .-When in his power and pride we all loved him. When he was our guest, and stood where we now stand, he was the joy of every heart and the praise of every tongue. Since then he has been afflicted he has exchanged the Senate for the sick chamber; but he is remembered still. and can never be forgotten while patriotic hearts warm and animate the human breast. Already. Mr. President, the poison has been extracted from the shafts that were wont to be levelled at him, and now that his body is enfeebled, and he is no longer a competitor for power and place, though still a Whigi yet he has been divested by his former enemies of his partizan character, until now it can be truly said Henry Clay lives without rivals and

Mr. President, if the thought of Mr. Clay's debilitated frame produces sadness, let us gather consolation from the fact cannot believe, that a country, possessing that he is in the hands of a kind and graall the advantages of this highly favored cious Providence. Let us rejoice that the region, can remain, much longer, shut out lustre of his eye is not yet dimmed, nor his heart cold to the welfare of his country. Let our fervent and devout prayer be that his span may be lengthened out, and his nights and days spent in comfort,-in France may be taken as an example; where fervent aspirations for the perpetuity of the Union, and in sweet communion with that Being whose ways are mysterious and incomprehensible to us.

But why prolong these remaks? I feel conscious that every member of this Convention is anxious that the balmy breeze of April, which now fans our cheeks, should, in its journey from the sunny south, linger here, and gather a kindly sentiment from this Whig Convention, to be borne upon the bosom of the breeze and wafted to the sick chamber of Henry Clay, as evidence that the Whigs of North Carolina appreciate his struggle to save the Union, as the self-sacrificing spirit of the Martyr, and as a guarantee that those leal and loyal hearts that throbbed in unison with his when our guest in 1844, still sympathise with him in his affliction, and devoutly hope that his health and strength may be soon and permanently restored. Mr. President, this is the sentiment of

the Resolution that I now hold in my hand; and desire the Secretaries shall read to this Convention. This is the "kindly sentiment" I desire the passing breeze shall gather from the united hearts of the Whigs of North Carolina, convened in

us hope that the "sentiment" may penetrate the chamber of the sick man, fall soothingly upon his senses, and add one throb of joy to that heart that oft has gladdened ours-one thrill of pleasure to that breast that has burned with intense anxiety through a long life for the honor, glory and prosperity of his beloved country.

[The resolution, (see proceedings in our last paper.) was unanimously adopted, with great appluse, as the speech had been welcomed.]

SPEECHES IN CONVENTION.

[Reported for the Raleigh Register.]

Mr. HAUGHTON, of Chatham, when the name of Mr. Kerr had been presented, addressed the convention, paying an eloquent tribute to his political and personal character. He was proud e said, to see the unanimity with which his nomination had been hailed. Never had there been just such an occasion before in North Carolina, -never a convention for the selection of the candidate of our party, in which the nominee, however worthy of confidence and support received so unanimous a vote, and enlisted such enthusiastic feeling, as in the present. At no time had there been a standard bearer present. ed, who is so acceptable to his personal and political friends, or who has been more worthy of the trust committed to his hands. If there i any man entitled to the cordial support of the Whigs of North Carolina, that man is John Kerr. He has, through good and evil report, steadfastly adhered to the political principles of our party, and gallantly fought to sustain them, and, although living in a country where there was everything to dampen the energies of the Whigs, he has never wavered in the most untiring zeal and devotion to the cause. He is em inently fitted to be the standard bearer in the coming campaign. Possessed of a pure heart, unspotted character, commanding talents and brilling eloquence, it is only necessary,—and I say here, as his personal friend, it is all he asks,-that we give him our generous confi dence, and that support to which he is entitled at our hands, and a sure and brilliant victory awaits us. [Prolonged applause.]

Dr. Hill, of Brunswick, spoke in support o the resolutions, and passed an eloquent eulogium upon President Fillmore. No man had ever been placed in a more trying position. Selec ted from a Northern State-distrusted in part. by the South, and having arrayed against him the force of Southern prejudice, - wantonly as sailed by the Abolitionists, he was placed in position which would have tried any man, yet amid all the trials by which he was beset, he had pursued suck an honest and independent course, as filly entitles him to the name of model President. To the South he is par ticularly dear; and as a citizen of the Old North State, I am proud to speak of him; and no true patriot, no man-be he Whig or Dem ocrat, having in his breast an honest heart, can speak of him other than as the pure Chief Magis. trate of the whole country. The speaker then alluded to the bitterness with which he is assail ed in the North, and read an extract from an abolition print, assailing his character and administration. These assaults he eloquently and in dignantly repelled, and spoke of the convulsions which agitated the country during the pendency of the compromise measures, and the noble stand taken by him regardless of sectional prej udices. To that stand, he said, the country i mainly indebted for the peaceful termination of one of the most fearful storms which has ever threatened it, and that, too, without the loss of sectional honor, or the shedding of one drop of blood. Of Millard Fillmore it was unnecessary to say anything more; his name and worth

are engraven upon the heart of every Ameri While Fillmore and Graham were his choice he would heartily support the nominee of the National Convention, provided he was unequivocally in favor of sustaining the Compromise. He had sufficient confidence in that body, to believe they would select no men as candidates who were not sound upon all questions affecting the interests of our country. He had no faith in mere written pledges. How was it in the campaign of 1848, when Gen. Cass gave publication to his two sided letters, which received from his friends, in different sections se many constructions, that even the Democrats had now no more taith in him that in that archdodger, Martin Van Buren.

Upon the doctrine of intervention, he adhered to the policy of Washington; and while he was as strong a Republican as any man, and as desirous for the spread of Republican free. dom throughout the world, yet he did not honestly believe the citizens of many European countries were fitted, socially and intellectually, for such a system of government as ours .with the overthrow of a monarchy, a Republic was formed, and ere the formal change was scarcely recognised, the people submitted quietly to a system more tyrannical than ever, under the usurper Napoleon.

In conclusion, he said we had a platform presented by the resolutions, upon which all can stand, and a standard bearer who could rally our united support, and with our duty accomplished, success would certainly perch upon

our banner. [Applause.] Mr. MILLER of Wake, brought to his feet by loud calls from all parts of the House, responded in one of his best efforts. He had no disposition to occupy the time of Convention with any ramarks, yet, when called to the performance of any duty by his Whig friends, he had no wish to shrink from it. In the remarks he was about to submit, he had no other desire than to contribute to the unanimity and harmony which governed the Convention. Our political opponents, previous to the assembling of the Convention, had predicted that it could not meet without sounding, by divisions of sentiment, the death knell of the Whig party in the State. How have these predictions been disappointed? Instead of distractions, growing out of sectional differences, we have determined to agree, and with that determination we will

conquer. [Applause.] Alluding to Mr. Fillmore, and the noble stand

which he had taken upon the compror tion, Mr. Miller said he had canvassed this I trict as a Presidential elector in 1848, able and zealous opponent, and that, th the District and State, Millard Filler been denounced as an abolitionist, and as worthy the support of Southern men. How he prove himself? During the agita those important measures, where did he st Did be take his stand with abolitionists and soilers ? No: he was found sustaining the C stitution, employing his personal and offic fuence for the preservation of the Union. Administration had been the bow of p spanning the arch of our political heave Under all the circumstances which had at ed it—the successsion of important which have marked it from its advent to the present time-the calm, dignity and un honor with which Mr. Fillmore has perfe bis executive duties, compel every one to the elements of the Statesman so happily blend ed in him-all the stern virtues of the pu so admirably united, that

And say to all the world—" This is a man ! If the choice of this body should not be choice of the National Convention, we will yield our preferences, and give a cordial a to the nominees, if they are sound u Compromise. But we owe it to ourselves to declare, that no man can prove sceptable, who is not unequivocally in favor of hose measure as a final settlement of the vexed question of slavery. Upon the question of Interver Mr. M. stood upon the platform of Wash and condemned any departure from his wise a ime honored policy.

With the nomination of John Kerr be nighly gratified. He knew him well-knew his fervid eloquence, and declared him a mar possessed of a clear head and sound heart, and hat heart in the right place. He happily ad verted to the onanimity with which his nation had been made, and affirmed that all that was required to secure his election, was unity of action. We are united here-let us be unied when we go home. Let us enter the contest with the right spirit-fight shoulder to shoulder and victory, complete and glorious will

crown our efforts.

In conclusion, Mr. M. paid a feeling tribute to the veteran patriot and statesman, " Harr of the West." He related an incidence which occurred in Harrisburgh Convention in 1 In the Convention were many ardent friends of Mr. Clay, who warmly urged his nomination : but when Gen. Harrison was declared the choice of the Convention, like good and true Whigs, their personal preferences were yielder to principle, and one by one they gave their hearty adhesion to the nomination. Ame the staunchest adherents of the Statesman of Kentucky, was the eloquent old Peter Livings ton, of New York, who was called on for speech; and who, in giving up his cherished hopes of the nomination of his idol, thus ele quently alluded to his undying fame, and his rm hold upon the affections of his country Kentucky (said he) may soon claim his sphere out, thank God, the world may claim his fame In the struggle of that memorable camps Henry Clay gallantly battled for the success of Harrison and Tyler; and when that Provide tial event transpired, which wrong the tribute of a sigh from the nation's heart, and John Ty er proved traitor to his friends, where was he hen? His clarion voice was heard again in rallying the Whigs for the onset, and again was his matchless eloquence employed for their success. Where is he now? Alas! prostrated by disease-stricken perhaps by the hand of death yet, thank God, though the grave may soon hole his ashes, every American heart will enshrine his memory—the whole world will claim his undying fame! In the language of that in tal patriot, he would conjure his Whig friends present to "Awake, arouse, shake off the dewdrops that glitter on your garments, and once march to battle and to victory!" [Immense applause and deep feeling throughout.

and responded happily, as he always does. He was totally unprepared for making a speech but, like his friend Mr. Miller, was never dis posed to shrink from a call made upon him b fellow Whigs. He was highly gratified at th harmonious action of the Convention. It had been predicted by the Democrats that the Convention could not harmonize upon the different questions presented for its action. In that they had been wofully disappointed. What is there in the platform presented by the resolutions with reference to National concerns, upon which all Whigs-all statesmen, and particularly all those of the South, cannot stand? We have presented Millard Fillmore as our first choice for the Presidency. He has been a President, not of a section, but of the whole country. At a time when this glorious Union, whose foundation was laid broad and deep by, and every stone of which was cemented by the best blood of our forefathers, was in imminent danger, he has stood its firm and fast friend. He has there been a man, North or South, who has evinced greater devotion to that Union, or who has proved himself sounder upon the Compromise question? Never have difficulties so great stared a President in the face, as those which he has had to encounter. Yet in the trying crisis, he has performed his duty with an eye single to the glory of his country; and, contrasted wi the dodging of "Old Fogies" or "Young A. merica," stands out in bold relief for honesty and independence.

Mr. Nash of Orange, was next called u

As to our second choice, Wm. A. Graham. he has always been true; and if elected Vice President, will still be true. Should, unfortunately, the fatality which has dogged the heels of Whig Presidents, still attend them, there is no man I would sooner trust with the reins of Government. [Applause.] No second edition of Tyler treachery would be inflicted upon us.

He again expressed his gratification at the unanimity which governed the Convention, and that Locofoco predictions had been falsified. The Convention question has been happily adjusted-our friends of both the East and West will be satisfied; and if we enter into the contest with the same spirit which is manifested here, our former proud position will be regained. North Carolina is a Whig State, and, with the fire brands which were thrown into our ranks removed, we shall, if we do our duty when we go home as well as we have done here, resume our rank as the Banner Whig State of the Union. [Applause.]

Mr. BANKS, of Cumberland, next respon to a call made by the Convention. An humble individual, he felt great embarrassment in submitting any remarks, after the able addresses which had been heard from the gentlemen who had preceded him; and that embarrasment was increased, when he was reminded, by glancing around him, that, in the language of a country

" A chiel's amang ye takin' notes, An' faith he'll prent 'em."