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The Chester Standard 1854

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## The Chester Standard - June 2, 1854

C. Davis Melton

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# THE CHESTER STANDARD.

## Farmer's Department.

ON THE CULTURE OF COTTON.

*Extract from Chambers' Encyclopaedia, read before the Southern Central Agricultural Association.*

I have now considered the operator, by a regular series, to the closing operation of planting the crop. And here I may perhaps add, that five factors are at times obtained with much less preparation. These are results from the accidents of season, and not the due reward of well directed culture; a prize drawn from the lottery, against which there are many blanks; a demonstration of the fertility and uncertainty of all the best half schemes of man. I pause before taking the next step. In this age of improvement, with scythes, and cultivators, and all the endless variety of labor-saving plows, and amid advances for hard culture, and soft culture, and high ways, and low, for making the crop, "who shall resolve the doubt, when all pretended to know?" and shall decide, with such differences among doctors, who is right? and who can pretend to say what number of acres to a hard will constitute a crop, with such varied modes of culture? I shall proceed upon the supposition that a plentiful supply of provisions are to be made on the farm, and then set down, as a good cotton crop, ten acres to the land; under favorable circumstances, a little money may be entreated, and on some let it do.

On the your cotton is up to a good stand, and the field is fully formed, we begin to appear, the operation may commence in lands which are smooth and soft, I incline to the opinion that the horse should precede the plow, chopping into bunches, passing very rapidly, on and let a carpet plowman follow, on each side of the drill, throwing a little dirt into the spaces made by the hoe, and a little also about the roots of the cotton, covering and leaving covered, all small gins which may have sprung up. This is indeed, the merit claimed for the operation, that after the horses have passed, the plow comes on and effectually cover and destroy the coat of young grass then up. This is known to practical planters, to be the crop of grass which escapes the hoe, and does mischief to the cotton. But when the land is so rough as to endanger the covering of the cotton with the plow, the operation must be reversed, and the hoe follow the plow. All that is now proposed to be done is, a very rapid superficial working, reducing the crop to bunches, soon to pass over and return again for a more careful operation. This should be done as soon as possible, as will be indicated by the necessities of the case. The grass and the weeds must be kept down and the soil compacted. In birds it may be sometimes done by observing the form and way of the hill; and some pretend to distinguish the age of fishes by the appearance of their scales but their methods are founded on mere hypothesis, and entitled to no confidence."

## Humorous Reading.

### HONOR PUPPIES BLOWN UP.

Bill Phipps had been married very long, and had got out of the habit of taking little punch at drinking feasts with his friends on particular occasions. He was first-rate at making excuses for staying out all night now, and then he was terribly pressed with business, and so he took very good care never to go home cross-legged his wife, never suspected anything, and all went on very well. One night, however, Bill got rather more than he could carry straight, but he didn't find it out until he was on his way home. He wouldn't have known he was in such a situation with the world, and he began thinking, as well as he could with his head spinning round, what was best to do to keep her from finding him out.

"H—! I've got 'zaetyl," said he—(she) Sa-sa-ka-won know (in) terribly f-fond of m-n-n. Will I tell take a big drink (drink) that'll fix all right-as she'll never suspecting poor girl."

Home he went, presenting straight walking on the way, and studying how he should talk straight, so that Susan would not find out.

When he found the latch, which was on the strong side of the door, which opened the wrong way too, he felt around the lock for more than a minute, and then he heard a noise, as if Susan were in another room.

He found the panel, where he expected to find some mice. Had no very clear idea as to what it might be; so after feeling about in every place but the right one, he came to the conclusion to go to his room, and kiss his wife where it was. The stairs seemed to be turned upside down and the bedroom-changed places with the kitchen, but he made out at last to find the room.

After closing his throat, and saying over his speech so that he could not make any mistake, he opened the door and leaning against the door post, listened to hear if his wife was awake. She was sound asleep.

"All the better for that," thought he.

"Susan! Susan! very low and plain."

"Eh?" said Susan just waking out of a doze. "Is that you some home, my dear, so late!"

"Susan! " said Bill, not paying any attention to what she said—his head being full of "zaetyl."

"What, my dear?"

"Is there any milk in the house?"

"Yes, dear—but what in the world—"

"Susan! Susan!"

"What, dear?"

"Where's the milk?"

"In the pantry in the dining room, dear, but you had better come to bed now, it's time to go to sleep."

Bill did not say a word but took some terrible long steps in the dark. He found the dining room again and the pantry, but he couldn't find the milk anywhere. After trying five minutes he went upstairs and leaning against the door to steady himself asked his wife again—

"Susan! Susan!" said he, very emphatically.

"Eh—what?" said she, waking up again. "Is there any milk in the house?"

"I told you there was some milk in the pantry, dear."

"I told you Bill again. This time he felt everywhere and spent every thing, making a terrible racket among the crockery; but not a drop of milk could be found.

"Confound the milk!" said he, "where could they have put it?"

In a minute was he at the bed-room door again.

"Susan! Susan!" said he.

Susan snuffed the snare short off in the middle.

"What? I said she, rather cross this time.

"Is there any milk in the house?"

"Yes, I told you."

"Well, where is it?" said he.

"I told you on the shelf—in the pantry in the dining room," said Susan, breaking it off in short mouthfuls.

That started Bill and put him off his guard.

"Well, Susan," said he, "is it tip up or anything or is it laying about loose."

This was enough—the cat was out of the bag, and no help for it. Miss Phipps was breaking up a minute, and the way Bill was a "goat" in the kitchen, and so the drunks began to create.

He never got carried again—and it was more than a year afterwards before he could drink milk in his coffee, when Susan was taken.

That is to say, he still had a great deal of trouble.

He was a good boy, but a bad husband.

He was a good son, but a bad father.

He was a good master, but a bad slave.

He was a good neighbor, but a bad friend.

He was a good citizen, but a bad man.

He was a good husband, but a bad master.

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