QUITE UNNECESSARY.

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There are quite a number of members who, when given the grip in connection with the secret work of the Order, conceive the impression that said grip is a new method of shaking hands, and they use it upon every occasion. I know a Lodge whose members are each and all imbued with that idea, and no matter when, where or how you meet them, you get the grip every time. They know me to be a Knight of Pythias, but that don't seem to make any difference, they want to test me, they hang on to that grip, and to them it is like a chunk of sweetness long drawn out. I met, one day, a brother member three different times, and on each occasion he gave me the grip with a force that left no doubt in my mind that he had it down fine. I can't to this day determine whether he was practicing on me, or whether he actually thought perhaps that I had forgotten the grip. This is one thing that should never be done, it should only be used as a test. If I meet a man and wish to find out if he is a Knight, I test him, that is what it is for. Indiscriminate use of these secret signs, etc., is in poor taste.-"Pythian Standard."

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

To test nutmegs: Prick them with a pin, and if they are good the oil will instantly spread around the puncture.

When a hat is wet with rain it should be dried with a silk handkerchief, brushed with a soft brush, and when nearly dry with a harder brush until perfectly dry.

To soften kid shoes that have been hardened by getting wet, clean them thoroughly and rub castor oil into them before taking them off.

To cleanse a soured sponge rub a lemon thoroughly into it, and then rince several times in lukewarm water.

To prevent doors from squeaking, oil the hinges with a feather dipped in linseed oil.

To clean decanters, put a spoonful of salt in the decanter, moisten with vinegar, shake well, and rinse.

To remove marks made by hot dishes on a warnished table, pour some paraffine over the spot and rub well with a soft cloth.

To clean enamelled baths, apply benzine on a small rag; scour the bath with it first, then wash with hot water and soap.

A very hot iron should never be used for flannels or woollens. Table linen should be ironed when quite damp and with a hot and very heavy iron. Embroideries should be ironed on a thin, smooth surface over thick flannel and only on the wrong side.

Linen may be made beautifully white by the use of a little refined borax in the water instead of a washing fluid. Washing fabrics that are inclined to fade should be soaked and rinsed in very salt water, to set the colors, before they are washed in the suds.

"GET UP AND GET."

The people who make their mark in the world are the ones who "get up and get." This old proverb, which has come down to us from a past age, is the key to success in every department of life. The men who have attained the highest distinction in the world were those who possessed this quality in a pre-eminent degree. The people who lack "snap and vim"—who are easily discouraged and have an aversion to hard work—will, however highly endowed by nature, be left behind in this progressive age.

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