

are, and how and when you are to do them, then you know it would not be *honest* for you to neglect or refuse to do them, because it is a plain bargain between us. It is just as it would be if you bought a dress in a shop. You expect the shopkeeper to send home the dress you bought, and not another dress. Do you understand me, Bridget?"

The reply to this question will vary according to the age and experience of the servant. In most cases it will be the spirit rather than the words which she has understood, and she will answer with an uncertain look, half pleasure, half distrust, on her face.

"Yis'm, I understand yees. It's me own work I'll be afther doin', and not nobody's ilse!"

Carefully avoid all impatience or amusement, whatever her reply may be. She is studying you carefully. Now is your time to win a foothold of influence with her—influence, that blessed, divine thing, without which authority is short-lived and insufficient. Next, take her to her room. This must be clean and comfortable. It must have all the conveniences necessary to enable a woman to keep her clothes and her person in good order.

If it can also have a cheerful and pleasant look, so much the better. But the first requisites are essential.

Next, instruct her slowly, accurately, patiently what her duties are to be. Have them clearly defined in your own mind. Go over the house with her and show her the places, the methods, yourself. How many times you must do this will depend upon two things. First, on how thoroughly and heartily you do it; secondly, on the age and mental qualifications of the servant. This is a point which must be left, as many things must be in the best recipes, "to judgment." In average cases, however, a week's time will usually be sufficient.

Next, see to it that negligences are *never* overlooked, and *never* angrily reprimanded. A simple reminder, firm but pleasant, is the only efficacious thing. If this does not answer, nothing will.

See to it—not give orders to that effect, but *see to it*—that by every member of your household, children, other servants, all, her rights are scrupulously respected; that she is not asked to do others' servants' work; that she is not impolitely treated—in short, that your half of the contract is fulfilled honorably.

If these directions are followed exactly and persistently, a good servant will be the result. Not perhaps a satisfactory servant. That involves many chances which no one can forestall or circumvent. Capacity can not be compelled or cultivated. But no one has a right to call a servant a *bad* servant

when she does the best she can. However stupid, inefficient, untaught she may be, she is a good servant if she is faithful and willing, and she *will* be faithful and she will be willing if the directions in this recipe are followed.

SECOND: RECIPE FOR A BAD SERVANT.

First, "catch your servant," or, if she catches you, that is less trouble.

When she arrives, say to her: "Oh! you have come, have you? I am sure I hope you will stay. I hate to change servants. It is such a torment. You can go right to your room and take off your things. Some of the girls will show you where your room is."

The room should be quite bare and comfortable. At least one other girl should sleep in it. Any sort of bed will do, and the washstand may be broken. It is as well not to have a closet. A few nails answer every purpose, if the plastering will hold them; if not, no matter. It is best not to have a bureau. A narrow strip of carpet before the bed does no harm.

When Bridget comes down, say to her: "Of course you understand that I engaged you as waitress" (if that were the office for which you took her.) "You have waited before, you told me. So you know just what there is to be done. I shall expect you to be very punctual; the cook will show you where the things are."

Go up-stairs then, and leave her to herself.

Be sure to reprove her *very* sharply for every mistake she makes during the first days of her stay with you. Otherwise, take no notice whatever of her.

These directions carefully followed will make a very bad servant in the shortest possible time.

The more capacity she has the worse she will be, probably, and the longer it will be before you find out how bad she is.

Both of these recipes have been tried in families of our acquaintance, and are infallible.—*Hearth and Home.*

SLIPSHOD.

"No man is a hero to his *valet de chambre*." This is a fact to which every one, however careful of his dignity, must yield. He who puts on the royal robe, adjusts the judicial wig, or pulls off the military boot, necessarily beholds king, judge, and conqueror in more or less of the nakedness of humanity, and in his eyes the symbols, at least, of majesty, law, and command can not but lose much of their awe. The great MOLTKE, who still, even in these days of bearded heroes, shaves, can hardly present a heroic aspect to the barber who holds him by the nose, and