

## THE LINEN PRESS.

A damp cupboard should be avoided. If possible have it near the bath room or kitchen, as the heat from the adjacent pipes helps to keep it dry and its contents sweet and fresh.

It is a good plan to cover the shelves with old sheets, tacking them to the back of the shelves and allowing a large portion to fall valance fashion at the front. Then, when the shelves are filled, this overhanging portion is laid over the sheets, napkins, and towels, thus protecting them from the dust that is likely to settle upon the clean surfaces, unless they are thus covered.

Those things that are in most constant use should be put where they can be most readily reached. A space should always be left between the various heaps of articles, for crowding frequently helps to get the articles mixed up, and the order that of such prime moment in a linen press is at once destroyed.

Sometimes the young housekeeper is puzzled as to the amount of linen required in a moderate sized family; therefore to her I give accurate numbers which have been proved to be all that is necessary. Three pairs of sheets to a bed are quite sufficient when the linen is changed in the fashion common in most households by sending the under sheet to the wash, while the upper one takes its place, and a clean one added to replace the latter. Use the sheets in turn, thus giving to them all an equal amount of wear and tear. Four pairs of pillow cases are the number allotted to each bed.

A dozen ordinary tablecloths, with two or three of an extra size for dinner parties are enough to stock a linen press. Four dozen dinner napkins are quite sufficient. Always put the clean things at the bottom of the heaps, being sure that they are mended before going to the wash. Use in rotation, and keep the gaps in the supply well filled up, and your linen press is certain to prove a continued source of pride.

Rub lamp chimneys, after washing, with dry salt.

To make glue waterproof, soak it in water until soft, then melt it in linseed oil, assisted by gentle heat. This glue is not acted upon by water or damp.

To Clean Baths.—When a scum forms on the inside of the baths, or the stationary marble wash basins, rub the places with dry salt, and it will come off without any trouble.

Transparent Paste.—For a transparent paste to fix transparencies on glass, use five parts of indiarubber dissolved in four parts of chloroform, then add one part of gum mastic.

If the handles of stove brushes are kept clean form the first, that part of the work seems no dirtier than any other about the house. It is an excellent plan to use a paint brush for putting on the dressing, also use plenty of fresh newspapers for polishing.

How to Clean Paint.—Mix together, with hot water, into a thin paste, one pound of soft soap, half a pound of pumice stone powder, and half a pound of pearl-ash. Take a paint brush, and lay on this mixture over the paint which requires cleaning, and after five minutes wash it off with hot water.

A Simple Newspaper Binder.—Take two pieces of light wire, strong enough to reach across the paper once, and three or four pieces of stout thread. Place one wire under the paper, as far from the edge as you choose to bind it. Put the threads round the lower wire, up through the paper, and tie them over the other wire on the top. Temporary covers of stiff pasteboard may be added, having holes for the reception of the thread, the wires being placed on the outside of the cover. The successive papers are, of course, to be threaded, one by one, by means of an awl, or coarse needle.

To Polish Tins.—For this purpose there is no better powder than that made of the soft white cinders which are usually thrown away. After sifting the ashes from the stove, pick from the cinders all the soft white ones. They must be soft enough to crush into a powder between the thumb and finger, and after pounding and sifting through muslin, they are ready to be used. First wash and wipe the tin clean, then with a flannel, rub it over with the powder. It is so fine that it does not scratch or wear off the coating, and gives the tin a beautiful polish. Keep a brush for getting into the seams round the handle and rim.

## SHE UNDERSTOOD.

A smartly-dressed young woman asked the saleswoman for some black kid gloves, which were produced for inspection.

"But these are not the latest style, are they?" she questioned.

"Yes, madam," replied the saleswoman, "we only had them in yesterday."

"I didn't think they were, for I saw in the paper that black gloves now had white stitchings, and vice versa? The stitchings are all right, but I don't see the vice versa."

The saleswoman tactfully explained, that vice versa was French for seven-button length, and her customer then bought two pairs.