

have a towel hanging close by, made and kept for the express purpose of rubbing dry the marble top and the basin after use. If every member of the family attends to this the result will be a clean and tidy-looking washstand.

### The Poor Implements that Women Work With.

It is not strange that a woman often does poor unprofitable work when one considers the chronic condition of her implements; there seems to be inherent in her a preference for dull knives and scissors, heavy iron tea-kettles and skillets, for stubby worn-out brooms and dusting brushes, for gummy sewing machines and clogged carpet sweepers. Why is it that the average housekeeper will put off till tomorrow what she would save time and strength by doing today? "Just this time," she says to herself, "I will use the sewing-machine in this hard-running condition. Tomorrow I will give it a regular overhauling." As a consequence, her thread breaks, her back aches, she grows nervous and irritable, and the work is poorly done. If she would look to it that they are kept in proper condition for the work to be done with them, the "drudgery" of housekeeping would be lessened. Do, for instance, have plenty of dish-towels and keep them clean; do not try to get along with one, hanging it in a dark corner when not in use. Wash them, boil them, sun them in summer and freeze them in winter; for if there is one place more than another where microbes "delight to dwell" it is surely in a stale dish-towel. Have a steel-link dish-cloth for pots and pans and save your silver spoons. Have a mop dish-cloth to use in very hot water, and regard the appearance of your hands as something not beneath a woman's care. Have at least two pans to drain your dishes in, so that fine china and glass need not be put in with large and heavy dishes. Pour a kettleful of boiling water over the heavy dishes in the drain-pan.

In removing pans from the oven, never use a dish-towel, but make a cloth out of a yard of denim, or cut a burlap flour sack up and hem it. You will find they wash easily, and your dish-towels are kept in good order.

Cover your kitchen, pantry and closets with linoleum, and the table with table oilcloth, also the wood box. They should be put on with paste, and save time, having only to wipe them off.