DECLUTTERING YOUR MANUSCRIPT

KEY QUESTION ~ DOES IT MOVE THE STORY FORWARD?

These are all taken from the latest revision of my current W-I-P

DECLUTTER: CHARACTERS

This is not easy to do , but taking out a character or story line that doesn't work can do wonders!
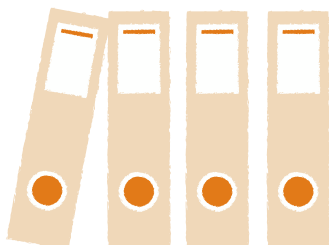
DECLUTTER: CRUTCH WORDS

Most times, words like "just," "seems," "appears," "started to," "very," and most adverbs are not needed in your MS.

DECLUTTER:

THINGS THAT DON'T DO THE JOB

Writing that doesn't serve the story? Take it out. Save it to a folder elsewhere, though.

TIDY UP: CHAPTER NUMBERING

In revision, chapter numbers can get really messed up. I even had "Another Chapter" and "Chapter Something." Fix!