

on each floor a single small room on each side of the hall, — four rooms in all. These, with the kitchen-outhouse, now removed, comprised the whole. The front-door opens close to the ground, and only a foot or two from the street railing. There is no porch; and the front of the house is almost as bare as if it had been shaved off with a plane. Bare and ugly enough the place must have been when the old Peabody family held it; though now, with its enlarged proportions, bright paint, and neat appearance, it is so far improved, that a sensitive man might, perhaps, live in it without absolute unhappiness. The original rooms have not been altered. On the first floor, they are only a little over six feet high; and across the middle of the ceiling runs a beam, which tall visitors must stoop to pass. The heavy timbers of the framework are also conspicuous at the corners. But for these, with the fresh wall-paper, bright carpets, and modern furniture, there would be nothing in the appearance of the rooms to remind you of their age. ‘I have tried everywhere,’ said Mrs. —, ‘to get some furniture which belonged to the old place; but not a bit can be found. I would like, above all things, to make at least one of these rooms look as it did when the Peabodys had it.’

“‘You must be very much annoyed with visitors,’ said I; ‘and I am ashamed of my own intrusion upon your patience.’

“‘Oh, not at all! I know that strangers like to see the house, and I am very happy to show it.’ But, before the