

## ADAMS'—"THE HOUSE OF HOMES"

"AFTER all," said Richard LeGallienne, "if one has anything to say, one might as well put it in a chair." And this is what the Adams Company believe, too, if we are to judge by the collection of furniture they have made in their big shop at the corner of Queen and James Streets, Toronto.

One most artistic suite of chairs is made of that precious red wood of South America, mahogany, and is upholstered in silk, with a pattern of ripe pomegranates. A second suite of mahogany is cushioned with chintz, the deep wine color of the wood contrasting beautifully with the different yellows of the textile fabric—amber, citron, saffron, topaz, and orange.

"Mission" seats, with saddle-bags of leather, tanned in mediæval style, are much in evidence in the big collection. We hope the young couples we saw selecting their furniture for "the wit bit ingle" will invest their shekels in these chairs, because of their durability, utility, and good taste. They can never become old-fashioned in any sense of the word.

The fumed and weathered oak is made up into hat-racks and other hall furnishings. An unique rack has an umbrella stand of the old style, sharp-pointed pickets, which are bound to the frame with huge, hand-made nails. The whole effect is most artistic.

The Adams make a specialty of cabinets. Here, you may joy your soul with china cabinets, music cabinets, medicine cabinets, and cabinets for cut glass. The latter are fitted with plate-glass shelves and mirrored backs, which enable the fragile treasures to be seen at their best.

Anyone, who like *Othello*, is "perplexed i' the extreme," by reason of wedding presents, could not do better than to send Her Brideship a Martha Washington sewing-table, a sectional book-case, or the latest drawing-room table—one with a round top, supported by a colonial pedestal. For more

slender purses, a nice present would be a jardiniere stand, some of which are fashioned after the quaint milking-stools one sometimes sees in the back country.

Couches there are a-plenty, and most of them invite to "sofa meditations" and dreams. Of course there are some stiff, stuck-up settees, Louis XVI. sofas, and airy divans, designed chiefly to support Madam Grundy when she calls to drink afternoon tea. It would never do to make her too comfortable. She might prolong her stay.

The rattan furniture shown by this company for verandah use is pretty enough, with the addition of a cushion, for almost any room in winter. This is a consideration in a small house, where the storage of extra furniture is a question. Jennie June was right when she said, "The great art of life is to eliminate."

Folding beds are to be had here in all styles, and to suit all purses. I often wonder if it was one of these beds Goldsmith had in mind when he wrote:

"The chest contrived a double debt to pay,  
A bed by night, a chest of drawers by day."

The Adams also show an ideal furnished house. One of its prettiest nooks, a Moorish corner is full of yellow light, that falls from a burner in a grotesquely-carved conch shell. The corner is, of course, heavy with

"Auld nick-nackets,  
Rusty airncaps, and jingling jackets."

But why describe it, when all the world knows that corners are places to look out of, not into.

The bedroom furniture of the ideal house is made of "crotch" mahogany, and is the product of truly expert workmen.

The kitchen is a gem, and there are ideas in it for almost any housewife, but we are not writing a catalogue, and do not wish to deprive you of the pleasure of visiting this big, beautiful place yourself.