

Why Period Furniture Is the Best

The history of furniture is the history of civilization and human achievement. The advance the people of many nations made from generation to generation and age to age is reflected in the home furnishings of those times or periods.

The rise of taste and culture is emphasized in Italian Renaissance in the French of all the Louis', in the warming of the phlegmatic Flemish fancy due to Italian influence, and in the varying procession of English type from Tudor Gothic down through successive Elizabethan, Stuart or Jacobean, Cromwellian, full of Puritanic austerities, William and Mary, Queen Anne, Colonial, and then the influence of the French temperament, became paramount in Chippendale, Heppelwhite and Sheraton, and the classic ruled strong in the productions of Adam Brothers and Shearer. The sketches in the barest of detail and as the majority of people are not great readers of history or fail to connect the impress of the various times of war or the piping years of peace with the material products of creative husbandry, these facts do not convey much to their minds. What most people seek is information about the home things they buy at the time the purchase is made and they want it right off the bat. The thing of having to pore over and through books to find out whether a certain chair is pure Colonial, or bastard Sheraton, is a waste of good time if there is a near

out to the information. It is only when her dearest friend and neighbor sports with affected erudition the historical glories of a Colonial bed-room spite that knowledge of Period styles takes on a more desirable complexion to the average woman.

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There are today hundreds of furniture types of fairly pleasing pattern design which are in effect composite productions. They combine some of the features of two or more distinct styles, but are not distinctive creations or pure type. So far as practical use is concerned, they will fulfill the mission for which they are designed and if the purchaser knows no better she will be just as happy in her possessions as though the purest reproduction of some museum piece was the deserved title. Very often these composites or, as politely phrased, these pieces, have Queen Anne or Colonial or Sheraton or some other style period "feeling." To say a piece of nondescript furniture has a Sheraton motif or Chippendale feeling is to christen it with more desirability in the eyes of a novice. Quite often these pieces or suites are to be had at lower prices than a pure reproduction. They should be. If I really want a spade, the chances are I

will give a demonstration of the peevish if I wake up to find I have acquired a blunt-nosed shovel. The real thing insofar as fidelity to pure pattern and style reproduction is concerned, is by far the most satisfying. This class of furniture lends distinction, charm, interest and taste to the home in which it is placed, and that is so well worth while that surroundings in keeping should also be provided. There is an artistic reason for furniture that for some historical fact or happening has become classic and is recognized and classified by the age or period that saw its creation. Such furniture has found a niche in civilization to which it belongs and which it, in turn, also commemorates. Take the massy Empire suites, and the Imperial, modern Caesar-Napoleon—is immediately associated with it. The more than suspicion that its conception was based on the lines of our own Colonial is quite beside the mark. As it stands, it is sufficient unto itself. It is Empire and the memories of that wonderful genius of blood and wrath, imperialistic and terrible, stand in its background and give the

historic title to its name. To the house that homes a suite of this kind, one that follows traditional outlines of the original and garnishes the room that holds it so as to insure the proper setting, there is the atmosphere that pertains to its time and it stands as an artistic achievement worthy of emulation.

The Empire period, offered for illustration, is only one of many, to a goodly number of which the writer confesses a greater personal preference. But the main fact remains; being that furniture of whatsoever period it represents is produced and offered by furniture manufacturers because it has become classic in our appreciation and as such merits the careful consideration of the merchants who expect to garb their homes in the furnishings that will give distinction as well as comfort; that will blend the artistic with the essential, as only the furniture of the classical periods can endow.

A war tax on automobiles which would take the joy out of the joyride could not be wholly burdensome.



Is
Your
Home
A
Home
Without
Music

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