BAIT AL-AMIR
Interior Moucharaby (18th century)
LATTICEWORK, TURNED WOOD
with Kufic Inscriptions
LATTICEWORK, TURNED WOOD
Windows and Details

Plate CXXXVII
LATTECWORK, TURNED WOOD
Whole and Details
Plates CXXXIX to CXLII
INTERIORS

In the reproductions of one of the most remarkable houses of Cairo, Bait Sidi Yusuf Adami, we have wanted to give an idea of the inner apartments of rich dwellings at the height of Arabic civilization in Egypt. We will try to detail successively their particularities and artistic beauty.

Reception room of Sidi Yusuf Adami (Pl. CXLII).—As in all the large reception rooms or either floor, this room was divided into two parts by a vestibule, separating the section reserved for women from that reserved for men. These sections, one slightly raised from the other, were covered with carpets, matting and cushions. The medial part, garnished with a suite of small arcades sculpted in marble, was used to place alcarazas and other small furnishings used daily. Above, near the ceiling, a suite of arabesques has been painted in counterpart to the stained glass windows, above the facing door, illuminating this room aired by vast moucharabies. A woman, leaning on the balustrade, gives an idea of the height of this part of the building.

The small room below the reception room is also decorated with niches sculpted in white marble, called Ka'warnakah. This room, used by the wet-nurse, decked with household utensils, was also decorated with marble plaques (Pl. CXL). Moreover, the house is, like all Arabic homes, slightly westernised; it is difficult to easily gain entry to Muslim houses.