

should be linked with that of Gibbons. Both worked in the same style, but, while the former was employed, presumably, mostly in his own district, the carvings of Gibbons are in many parts of the land, and nowhere in greater perfection than at Belton House.

From this digression upon the work of the great wood-carver, which is made appropriately, because he played so prominent a part in the adornment of old English mansions, we return to the history of Belton House. A later Sir

John Brownlow, who was created Viscount Tyrconnel in 1718, and who died in 1754, made many changes in the place. It was he who began the fine library, and laid out the beautiful formal gardens, which no longer remain. Perhaps to his time we may ascribe the noble hammered gates of the west forecourt and other external adornments. He built the triumphal arch near the eastern gate, which is known as the Belmont Tower, and commands a magnificent view from its crest. This Sir John



THE WEST END OF THE DINING-ROOM.