

the night in Agecroft Hall. Opposite to the entrance arch is the long window of the great hall, with much magnificent ornamental timber-work, and great splendour in its ancient character. The kitchen, with the offices and servants'

exception of one small portion, all these have now been closed in.

The enclosing of the galleries will have suggested that Agecroft Hall has been modernised; but changes are inevitable, and when reverent



*CARVED BEDSTEAD IN THE GREEN ROOM.*

quarters, is on the right, while the family apartments are on the left hand, the old chapel having been converted into a dining-room. Originally the courtyard was surrounded by open galleries on the upper floor, much after the manner of the old quadrangular hostelrys, but, with the

hands graft some manifestation of existing times upon the evidences of an earlier age, let us not complain. So is the history of successive owners imprinted upon the place, and so, at Agecroft at least, is the place preserved. It is, indeed, in the hands of those who value both its character and