

Evelyn's host was not to be drawn away from the old location within the moat. He preserved what he could that was old, and the panelling in the study undoubtedly came from the earlier house. It will be seen that it bears the old English linen pattern, which belongs to mediæval times, but continued in use until late in the sixteenth century, and to that century we ascribe the older panelling at Groombridge. The work is extremely interesting, because it bears the marks of changing style. The fireplace arch is of Tudor character, and the same lines are introduced into the

carving above, but the craftsman had imbibed the classic spirit, and the fluted pilasters, the scrollwork adornment in the horizontal panels, and the Renaissance carving in the cornice are all in the later taste; to the lover of handicraft this combination of styles in the work at old Groombridge will be very interesting. It will be noticed that the fireback belongs to the late sixteenth century, and that, like the firedogs, it bears the fleur de lys in memory of the association of Groombridge with the Royal captives of France.

It has been asserted that Evelyn, returning



THE STUDY.