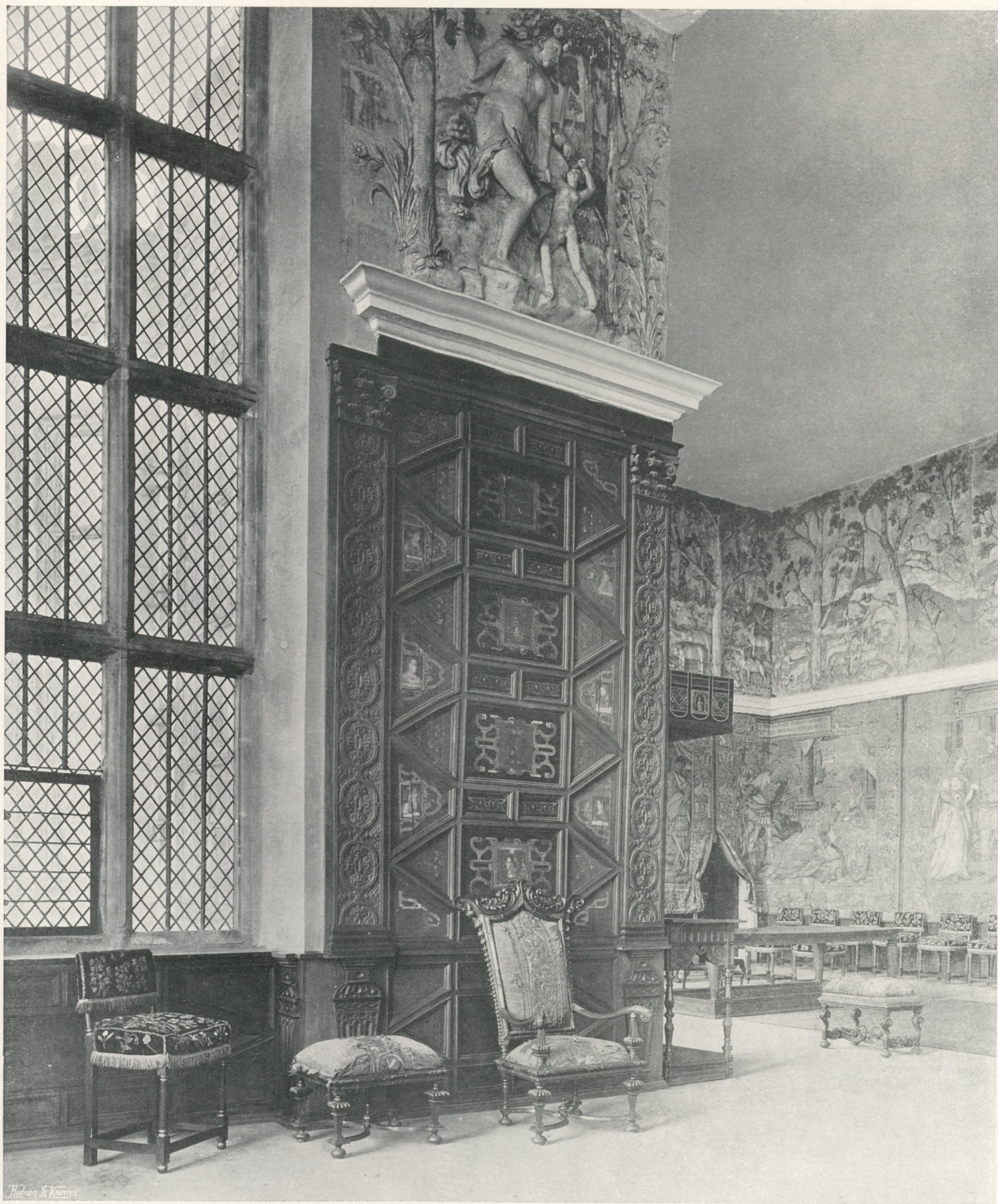




*THE RECESS IN THE PRESENCE CHAMBER.*

with a lower open colonnade at the front of the house, bold projecting wings, and the huge windows which have become almost famous. The initials of the foundress are in the open work of the parapet, much after the manner adopted at Wollaton, Temple Newsam, and Castle Ashby. The high stone wall of the garden and the gateway are in the same style, and the masonry is both solid and good. The building was completed in or about 1597, and was the constant residence of the Countess of Shrewsbury until her death. It may be interesting to note that in the Caven-

dish mausoleum at All Saints' Church, Derby, is a splendid monument of the Countess, constructed during her lifetime and under her own directions. Her effigy lies in a recess in the lower part, with hands uplifted in prayer, and the inscription records that, after building Chatsworth, Hardwick, and Oldcotes, she died at the age of eighty-seven, "in the expectation of a glorious resurrection."

The internal fittings of the house are mostly coeval with the building itself, or were added shortly after its completion. There are massive carved chimney-pieces reaching to the ceiling, and