

Hardwick, Arabella Stuart, and others, besides many portraits of relatives and connections of the Earl and Countess. Queen Mary's bed-chamber has already been described. The Gallery is 166ft. long and 22ft. broad, not including two large bays, which give a fine outlook. It is a most imposing apartment, quite characteristic of the time, and very beautiful in some of its details.

So imposing and stately a house must needs have a history, but the events that give it fame are mostly those associated with the great lady who built it. She was not only the guardian of Mary Queen of Scots, but afterwards of Arabella Stuart, who certainly was with her at Hardwick Hall. After the Gunpowder Plot, the Council sent instructions to the sheriff and officers of the county, enjoining them to be very strict in suppressing disorder. As the Dowager Lady Shrewsbury, living at Hardwick, was a widow and solitary, they were required to have a care for her

safety and quietness, and if Lord Cavendish had occasion to ask for assistance on her behalf, it was to be rendered to secure her safety. These veiled instructions for action were given, not so much out of love for the aged Countess, but owing to renewed fear of seditious movements in favour of Arabella Stuart, who was then her ward. Hardwick, at a later date, had another interesting inhabitant, in the person of Thomas Hobbes, the philosopher, who lived for twenty years there and at Chatsworth, and died at Hardwick in 1679.

The Duke of Devonshire has several fine houses, and Hardwick Hall is one of the most interesting of them. His Grace does well to preserve it, and to safeguard the ruins of the venerable structure which was its predecessor, and is now one of the oldest houses in Derbyshire. There are not many places in England where the original mansion and its successor stand together, each the exemplar of a different age.



*THE GATEHOUSE AND THE OLD HALL.*