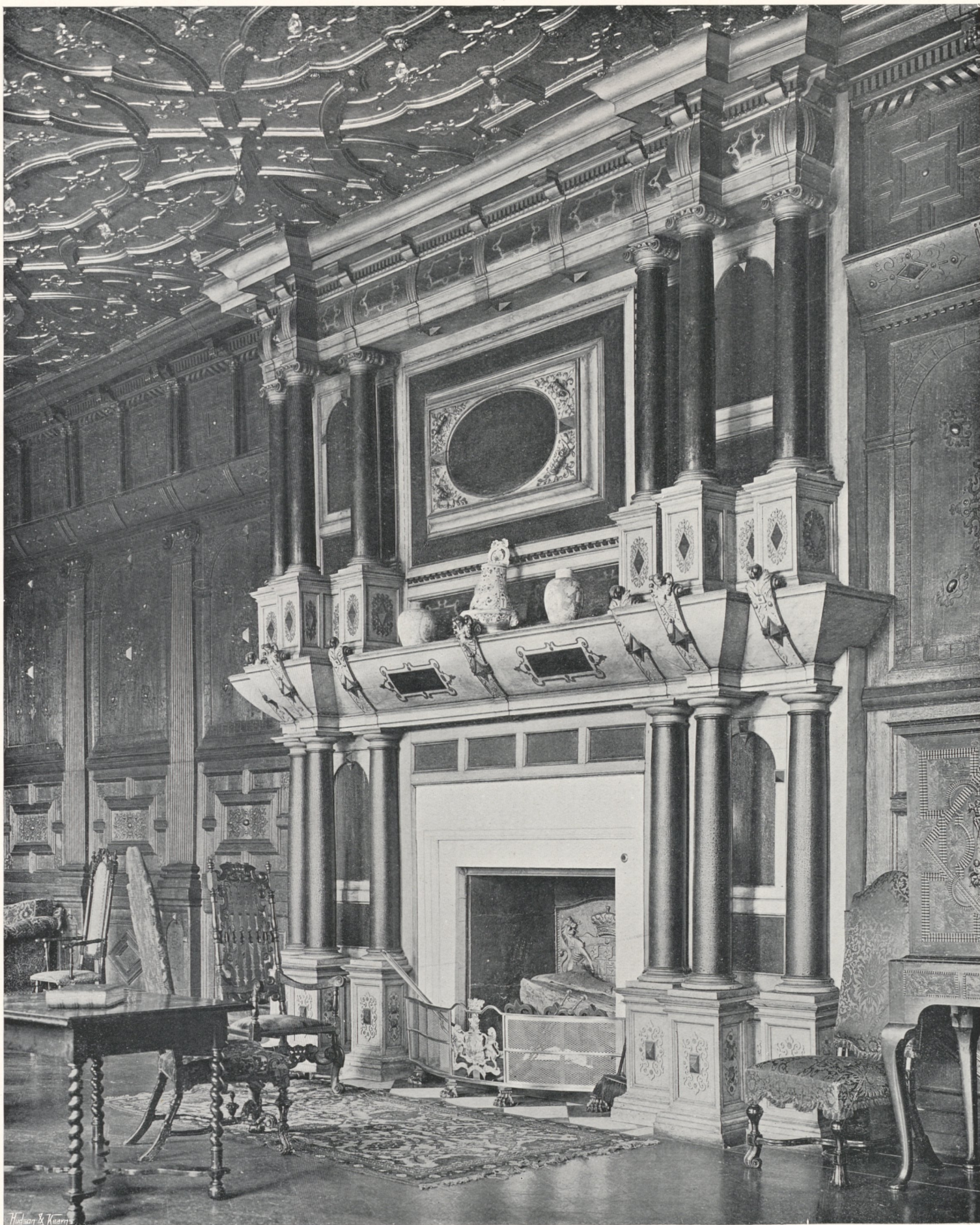




*A CHIMNEY-PIECE IN THE LONG GALLERY.*

How the house was built has been related, and what is its architectural character has been described. It belongs to that period of our history in which the full sunlight was welcomed into English abodes. The great windows bespeak the new spirit in the land. The older Englishman had lived more retired. The necessities of defence, the need of setting a strong barrier against the unwelcome stranger, the protection of moat and wall, the narrow loopholes, the steep-angled embrasures, the machicolated gateway and port-

cullis, had all given a somewhat forbidding aspect to the mediæval mansion. It was grand and imposing in its strength, and within was as beautiful as the old worker could make it, with carvings, tapestries, and hangings. Where that old worker excelled was in lavishing his reverent skill upon some tabernacle in stone, and when he depicted the human form, it was as an angel hymning the celestial praises, or a saint with up-raised eyes, or a mail-clad warrior sleeping his last sleep undisturbed. There failed in the house