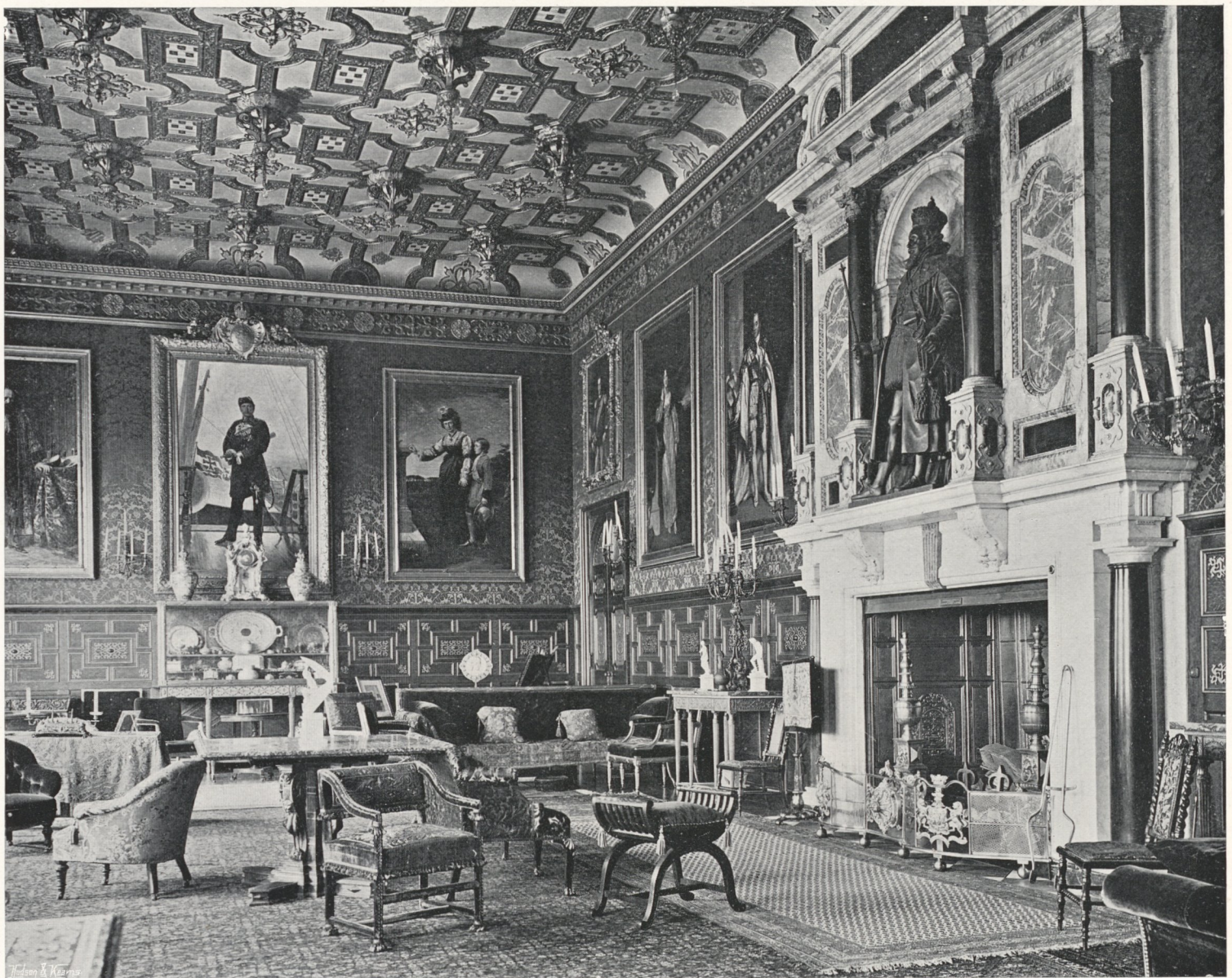


documents of the utmost importance for the history of the reign of Elizabeth and James I. The letters of the Cecils, extending from Henry VIII. to James, number upwards of 13,000, and Lord Burghley's Diary is one of the principal treasures. The Marquess of Salisbury rightly values this priceless collection, which is carefully arranged, classified, and catalogued.

Below the Long Gallery is the great Armoury, which has been referred to. It contains many interesting Spanish relics and objects from the wreck of the Armada, thrown on shore and sent as trophies to Burghley by Elizabeth. Space is wanting, however, to describe all the

yellow gown, embroidered with mouths, eyes, and ears, and having a serpent on her sleeve. There are also fine portraits of James I. by Mytens, of the Duke of Suffolk, father of Lady Jane Grey, of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, of William III. by Kneller, and many more. The Cecil portraits include Thomas, Earl of Exeter, and his half-brother Robert, Earl of Salisbury, from whom sprang the two great Cecil houses. James, first Marquess of Salisbury, is by Beechey, and Mary, the first Marchioness, who died sadly through fire, is a charming whole length, with a garden background, by Reynolds.



*KING JAMES'S ROOM.*

fine chambers of Hatfield House. The Summer Dining Room is under King James's Room, and there is a Winter Dining Room containing many curious and valuable pictures. The Drawing Room is indeed beautiful and lightsome, and the Chapel contains King James's organ in a very rich case. The whole of the ground floor of the east wing is occupied by private apartments. The portraits and pictures are of the utmost interest and value, and include two of Mary Queen of Scots, and not less than five of Elizabeth, including the famous half-length by Zuccherò, in which she is represented in a remarkable jewelled headdress and a marvellous

The mention of a garden reminds us that from the windows of these splendid chambers many delightful garden scenes are surveyed. Bacon had said that "without a garden, buildings and palaces are but gross handiworks," and Cecil, who was Bacon's kinsman, devoted himself unremittingly to beautifying the surroundings of his house. His chief gardeners were Montague Jennings and John Tradescant, afterwards horticulturist to Charles I., and father of the more famous Tradescant who founded the Tradescant or Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. The levels and terraces at Hatfield were carefully laid out, and, through the wife of the French Amba-