

another brother. He was reluctant to relinquish military service, but, being a great favourite with Frederick, he was sent to Berlin as envoy in 1703, and became Ambassador Extraordinary three years later. All along he was in close

Apparently a substantial mansion of the Stuart character stood there, some parts of which still exist. Probably the soldier-diplomatist did not greatly alter it at this period. He was, however, weary of his post abroad, and represented



*THE GRAND STAIRWAY.*

relations with Marlborough, and, though a diplomatic Minister, took some part in the military operations as a volunteer.

He was in England from May to September, 1708, and it was at this date that he bought the estate of the Cutlers at Stainborough.

to Marlborough his desire to be relieved of it, to be made a Privy Councillor, and to have his cousin's peerage of Earl of Strafford called out in his own person. Although Swift said that he was wholly illiterate, and could not spell, he was a man of taste and art judgment, and in