

RUFFORD ABBEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE site of the Cistercian Abbey of Rufford was granted after the Dissolution by Henry VIII. to his favourite and courtly supporter, George Earl of Shrewsbury, and upon it subsequently rose the beautiful house whose interior we depict. From the family of the grantee Rufford passed to a member of the great Yorkshire house of Savile, with whose descendants it has ever since remained. Among was Sir Henry Savile, author of the "Scriptores post Bedam," provost of Eton, and founder of the Savilian professorship at Oxford, and the memorials of the greatness and sometimes of the loyalty of the family to the Stuart cause may be seen in stucco over the Yorkshire fireplaces about

which its members gathered. The first of the family to possess Rufford was Sir George Savile of Thornhill, son-in-law of the Earl of Shrewsbury, the mansion coming to its new owner through his marriage with Lady Mary Talbot. The second baronet was a man of great note in his time, prominent in many affairs, who had the honour of entertaining King James and Prince Charles at his house, to enjoy there the diversion of the chase. It lay in a country of the greenwood, and the ferny depths of the old forest of Sherwood resounded many a time with the hunter's horn.

"Fear God, Honour the King," is a motto in one of the Savile houses in Yorkshire, and truly



THE NORTH END OF THE LONG GALLERY.