

the Tapestry Gallery, go back to that time. The date, 1593, may be seen over the door of the extremely quaint old stables, which are themselves like a house, and stand opposite to the lych-gate of the church. The earlier date, 1588, remains at the back of the fireplace in the Hall.

It seems probable that the original purpose was to erect a manor house of the E form, so common in Tudor times; but it was never carried out, for only one block with the central projection was completed, and the house took its present form about the year 1650 or 1655, when two wings were added in the rear of the then existing building, thereby forming three sides of a quadrangle,



*THE STUDY CHIMNEY-PIECE.*

and partly enclosing a courtyard. The original plan of the house was thus entirely changed, and the effect has been to give much pleasing individuality to the structure. The Great Staircase, the Library, and the Long Gallery were a part of this addition, while the Hall and Tapestry Gallery, as has been said, are more than half a century older. The Hall is certainly most quaint and interesting in character. It has a flat ceiling, and thus does not possess the dignity of some of the greater halls, but it is of large size and excellent proportions, and is very beautiful. The paneling is of old oak, rich in character and colouring, with excellent carving along the top in many places. The fireplace



*THE EAST GALLERY.*