

CASTLE HOWARD, YORKSHIRE.

CASTLE HOWARD, the greatest of the classic mansions in Yorkshire, and one of the greatest in England, stands nobly upon the lofty range of hills that rise between the dales of the Derwent and the Rye. Climbing the hill by the picturesque road, we see behind us the level edges of the Yorkshire Wolds extending away mile after mile into the distance, and before us the green woodlands which surround the home of the Howards. Soon we discern the palatial front of the glorious mansion, crested with its majestic turrets and cupola, while high above glistens the dome of the mausoleum. We are not reminded much of history by the level lawns and stately terraces, the majestic avenues of beech and lime, the Italian gardens, the classic statuary,

and the temples and columns, and the mind does not easily reach back to the days when the ancient castle of Hinderskelf frowned upon the hill. That edifice was destroyed by fire about the year 1700, and Charles, third Earl of Carlisle, began the erection of its successor and the laying out of the grounds in or about the year 1712. The work went on for many years, and a tablet upon an obelisk records its completion in 1731.

The architect was Sir John Vanbrugh, and Castle Howard is generally considered more successful than his better-known work at Blenheim. Mr. Fergusson considered the design more sober and simple, and that the cupola in the centre gave dignity to the whole, and broke the skyline much more pleasingly than the towers of



THE LIBRARY.