



THE INNER HALL.

the place, say something concerning its possessors. William Davenport, son of Sir William Davenport, sided with the Royal party in the Civil War, and suffered considerably in consequence, for the country thereabout generally favoured the Parliament. Some of his friends were on that side, and one of them, Sir William Brereton, actually quartered troops in his house and seized arms out of it. Ultimately Davenport was charged with delinquency against the Parliament, and was mulcted in a fine of £750. His descendants in the male line continued to hold the place until William Davenport, dying in 1829, left no legitimate issue, but adopted two daughters, of

whom one married Captain (afterwards Admiral Sir) Salusbury Price Humphreys, who took the name of Davenport in 1838. This gentleman's grandson succeeded to the estate on attaining his majority, but it was heavily encumbered, and was sold in 1877, being afterwards purchased by Mr. Nevill.

The main front of this fine timbered structure faces the east, and has at the back, on the west side, a courtyard, of which three sides remain. Traces of alterations are found in the house, and the Great Hall and the Withdrawing Room over it appear to be of later date than the south wing. The more exposed parts, particularly