

PARHAM PARK, SUSSEX.

SUSSEX is one of those English counties which have seen a wondrous deal of the national and personal life of our countrymen. There is scarcely a Sussex village that is not in some measure a landmark of history, and if, sometimes, the solitary hamlet seems cut off from the busy hum of the urgent world, living amid the folds of the hills an uneventful life of its own, be sure that in its annals there have been stirring events or curious happenings to record. It is a county rich in passages of sylvan beauty, and dignified in many places, as at Parham Park, Lord Zouche's stately seat, by the possession of old ancestral trees of mighty growth and splendid form. The open heights of the Downs, with their subtle effect of atmosphere and distance, their

changing hues and individual character, their romantic prospects of land and sea, have a fascination which none who know them can resist. Nestling below their southern slopes and sheltered from the chilling blasts are many quaint and picturesque villages, and near them not a few of the houses of the great, who have chosen this favoured region as one desirable to dwell in.

Parham Park is one of the most important and stately old mansions in western Sussex—a charming architectural creation, with noble gardens and a beautiful park, lying at the foot of the Downs, and having behind it a hill commanding a great prospect of land and sea, with the Isle of Wight to close the view. The house has been restored by judicious hands, so that it bears the true aspect of that spacious



THE BARON'S HALL.