

Windsor's new structure is mainly cast are built about courtyards, and the quadrangular plan has many merits, but it sometimes presents the grave disadvantage that it allows no place for corridors, and that a whole series of rooms may be in intercommunication to serve as a passage-way. Lord Windsor's house was planned differently. His Great Hall has all the advantages of a courtyard. It is large and lofty, in every way spacious and airy, and is well adapted to act as the "lungs" of the house, and to be the means of communication between the various parts of it. It has its pleasant recesses, its fine fireplace, its opening to the garden vestibule, its noble staircase and splendid upper corridors, all arcaded and beautiful. There is nothing here of the customary square enclosure to form a hall or room, but a sense of largeness and nobility, with glimpses of the upper spaces and corridors, and a peculiarly happy triple arrangement within the Great Hall itself, all showing bold imagination and individualised treatment. Entering from the garden vestibule, which is separated from the Hall by three round arches, rising upon Corinthian columns, we have the whole extent before us. To the



*A BEAUTIFUL MANTEL-PIECE.*

left is the lofty arch, flanked by pillared openings, through which the foot of the great staircase is reached. Above run the magnificent gallery corridors, partly open and partly concealed, which bridge the recesses opposite. On our right hand is the third division of the Hall, used as a Billiard Room, and entered through the middle arch of three, the other openings having beautiful marble balustrades.

The ruling idea in the designing of this great and imposing Hall was majesty in character and richness in materials and handicraft. Marbles and travertine, the products of the most celebrated quarries, splendid woodwork, and the best that the craftsman in plaster could accomplish—nothing was spared that could beautify the interior. How admirable is the effect the pictures disclose, and perhaps none of them so well as that of the south side. Here we see the nobility of the opening arcade in the foreground, with its marble balustrade, the lovely polished shafts of precious marble rising to Corinthian capitals and supporting most elegant arches, whose spandrels are filled with inlaid marble, and above these the enriched moulding of the splendid ceiling. On the left the arches of the garden



*THE SMALL DINING-ROOM.*