

Behind the present panelling in the drawing-room are the remains of still older panels. The chimney-piece in this room was originally flush with the wall, as in the dining-hall; and it still exists, behind the present stone chimney-piece. The projection was the result of the house having settled towards the north side, causing the timbers to leave the south wall, and thus arose the necessity for disguising it. The fire-dogs in this

turret. Remains of old buildings are to be met with in all directions, and there are legends respecting two subterranean passages. These are said to have led, the one to Coney Hall Hill, adjoining Hayes Common, where there are remains of earthworks, and the other towards Addington, probably to Castle Hill, which may have been a Roman military station. They have not, however, been explored within living memory. The gardens and



WICKHAM CHURCH. (See page 108.)

room have on them the royal arms of England, enamelled, in blue and white, on copper, and are splendid examples of that particular kind of work.

In the article in the "Archæologia Cantiana," above referred to, the *entresol* is mentioned as a curious feature in the house, advantage having been taken of the lower ground on the west and north sides to gain an extra floor, still retaining the ground floor rooms. The kitchen was under the *entresol*; the underground offices are now used as cellars. The additions to the house are in the style of a period about 120 years later than the date of the original structure; the junction between the old and the new parts is noticeable at one face of the south-east

pleasure-grounds cover about seven acres, and are remarkable for a happy admixture of modern taste with the trim *parterres* of the Dutch and Italian style.

In no other place is there to be seen a lawn with a deeper or more velvety turf; and shapely trees feather down upon it most gracefully at the entrance of a broad straight grass walk between closely-cropped yews, which is still popularly known as "Anne Boleyn's Walk," from a tradition that it used to be the favourite promenade of herself and Henry VIII. There is also a little Gothic tower, with a trap-door covering a subterranean passage through which the royal lover is said to have passed. The hedges of yew, cut square, are so thick and