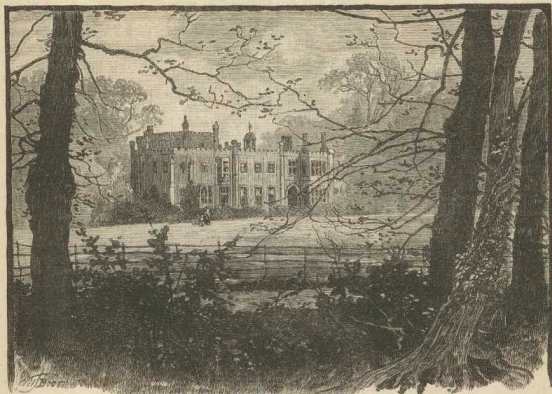


Evere nyght my Lord of Arundell mad her a grett bankett at ye cost as ever was sene, for soper, bancett, and maske, wth drums and flutes and all ye mysyke y^e cold be, tyll mydnyght; and as for chere has not bene sene nor heard. On Monday was a great supper made for her, but before night she stood at her standing in the further park, and then she saw a course. At nyght was a play of the Chylderyn of Powlles* and their mysyke master, Sebastian Phelyps and Mr. Haywoode; and after

from other sources that the queen was here again in 1567, 1569, and 1580. In the latter year Lord Talbot remarks (as well he might), in a letter to the Earl of Shrewsbury, "Her grace liketh well of this place."

So true, indeed, was this last remark, that eleven years later Elizabeth bought back Nonsuch, though probably the purchase was effected by the Tudor plan—that of barter in kind, other lands being given instead of hard cash. During the last ten years of



NONSUCH PARK.

a grett bankett as . . . wth drums and flutes, and the goodly bankets and dishes as costely as ever was sene and gyltyd tyll iij m . . . ther was skatting of yonge lords and knyts of y^e . . . My Lord of Arundell gayffe to ye Quen grace a cubard of platt."

It may be supposed that, having to entertain his royal mistress thus liberally, the earl was not sorry when she said good-bye to him at the great gates of Nonsuch on the 10th of the same month, and rode on her way to Richmond and Hampton Court.

It is known from the Sydney State Papers and

her reign, before she gave up her hunting and other amusements, Nonsuch would seem to have been her favourite country seat. Nichols, in his "Progresses of Queen Elizabeth," records her coming hither in September, 1598, and again in the July and the September of the following year.

The Earl of Arundel, who bought Nonsuch from the Crown, and whose son-in-law, Lord Lumley, sold it back to Elizabeth, was Lord Steward of the Royal Household, and in that capacity had much to do with the palace. He did not leave his work half done; for we are told that he did not resign it to his royal mistress until he had "fully finished it in buildings, reparations, pavements, and gardens, in as ample and perfect sort as by the first intent

* The chor'sters of St. Paul's, London.