

## THE GREATEST HOUSE AT CHELSEY

could do more with him than any man, endeavoured to persuade me to a compliance. Among other arguments he said, 'You may make it out either in meal or in malt.' This I thought was a bad hint to a young man going to engage in an employment that much money, not his own, must pass through his hands; and though, as I have said, Sir Hans Sloane was a good master to his servants—as in truth he was—yet he was too strait with those who were concerned in money matters, which perhaps urged his steward to make it out in meal or in malt till by such means he lost his place."

However, the arrangement did not long continue, as Howard soon had occasion to resign his appointment—

"I had not long held his deputation before he did something so mean and repugnant to our last agreement, which offended me very much, that I abruptly gave him back his deputation. This for a time struck him dumb. After a pause, he then in great amazement said, 'You!—you!! to return on my hands what thousands would have leaped at! You *shall* repent it to the longest day you have to live. You shall never have it—you shall *never* have it any more!' But in this hitherto he was mistaken, for I have not yet repented of it, and replied, 'Sir Hans, I believe I shall never ask you for it.'"