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## THE STATELY HOMES OF ENGLAND.

### I.

The stately homes of England,  
How beautiful they stand  
Amid their tall ancestral trees,  
O'er all the pleasant land.

NOTHING more forcibly strikes a traveller from this New World to Great Britain than the number of great estates and old historic mansions of the English aristocracy. Their gray old towers and ivy-mantled walls are haunted with a thousand thrilling memories, "speaking of the past unto the present," and often associated with some of the most noteworthy lives and most notable events in the history of the English-speaking race. He who is familiar with the story of these great houses and of their noble owners, many of whom belong to the most ancient families of the realm, has obtained an insight into English history and English society such as he can obtain in no other way.

Few, however, can roam throughout the realm and gather up the local traditions, or search the ancestral archives, or learn this legendary lore. But this the authors of the stately volume before us, well worthy of its stately theme,\* have done; and have placed the result of their labours with pen and pencil within the

\* *The Stately Homes of England.* By LLEWELLYNN JEWETT, F.S.A., and S. C. HALL, F.S.A. Two vols. in one; pp. 403 and 360, with 380 engravings. New York: R. Worthington. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, \$8.