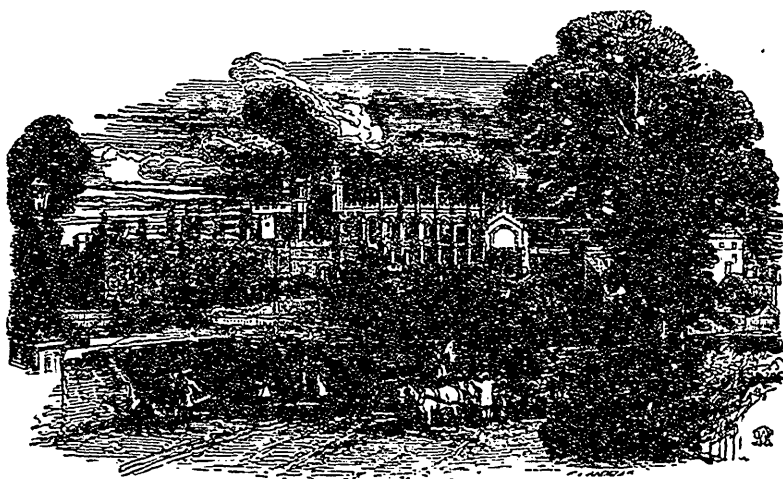


that the visit is rather unsatisfactory. It is quite a shock to one's susceptibilities also to hear such a faultlessly attired gentleman drop his h's in such a promiscuous manner. We are led in succession through the Queen's audience chamber, and presence chamber, and guard chamber, and many another filled with elegant tapestries and the like. St. George's Hall, in which state banquets are held, is 200 feet long, and is gay with the gold and gules and azure of royal and knightly arms. The VanDyck room is rich in royal portraits, that almost speak, by that great painter. The noble terraces—one is a third of a mile long—command lovely views of the royal gardens and park—rich in flowers, fountains, statuary, and stately trees. Herne's famous



ETON COLLEGE AND CHAPEL.

oak, celebrated in Shakspeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor," a few years ago blew down, but the Queen planted another in its place.

One climbs by a narrow stair in the thickness of the solid wall to the battlements of the ancient keep, long used as castle palace—here James I. of Scotland was confined—then as a prison. From the leads is obtained one of the finest views in England, extending, it is said, into twelve counties. At the base is the deep moat, once filled with water, now planted with gay beds of flowers. Like a map beneath us lie the many suites of buildings, the Royal Gardens, the Home Park, the Great Park, and the Long Walk and Queen Anne's Ride—two magnificent