



CHAPTER I.

§. I.

Thomas Cranmer, Son of Thomas Cranmer, a Gentleman of an Ancient Family, whose Ancestors came in with the Con-

Thomas Cranmers Birth.

queror, was born in the Year 1489. at Aslacton, a Town in the County of Nottingham. In his Youth he was put to learn his Grammar of a Parish-Clerk, under whom he endured much and learn'd little.

His School-Learning,

At the Age of fourteen Years he was sent to Cambridge, where he lost his Time in the dark Riddles of Duns and other subtle Questionists, till he came to two and twenty Years of Age.

His Progress,

After that he gave himself to the reading of good latin Authors for four or five Years together, unto the Time that Luther began to write. For then, to try out the Truth in the Controversies that were then moved, he applied himself to the Study of the Holy Scriptures for three Years. After this he gave his Mind to good writers both new and old, not rashly running over them, for he was a slow Reader, but a

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