

JOSHUA REYNOLDS was born at Plympton in Devonshire, July 16th, 1723; the son of Samuel Reynolds and Theophila Potter. He was on every side connected with the Church, for both his father and grandfather were in holy orders; his mother was the daughter of a clergyman, and his maternal grandmother the daughter of the Rev. Mr. Baker, an eminent mathematician in the last century, of whom we have an account in the *BIOGRAPHIA BRITANNICA*. His father's elder brother, John, was also a clergyman, a fellow of Eton College, and Canon of St. Peter's Exeter.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Samuel Reynolds taught the grammar-school of Plympton, which could have

<sup>1</sup> This gentleman, who died in 1758, left his library, and the greater part of his fortune, to Exeter College in Oxford.—There is a mezzotinto print of him, scraped by M'Ardeh, (from a portrait painted by his nephew, now in Eton College,) which has erroneously been supposed to represent the father of the painter. See Bromley's Catalogue of Engraved British Portraits, 4to. 1792, p. 280.