LIFE AND ADVENTURES

OF

BAMFYLDE MOORE CAREW.

Mr. Bamfylde Moore Carew was descended from an ancient family of the Carews, son of the Rev. Mr. Theodore Carew, of the parish of Bickley near Tiverton, in the county of Devon. Mr. Carew was born in the month of July, 1793; and never was there known a more splendid appearance at any baptism in the West of England, than at his; the Hon. Hugh Bamfylde, Esq. and the Hon. Major Moore, were his illustrious godfathers, both of whose names he bears; Mr Bamfylde presented him a piece of plate, whereon was engraved, in large letters, BAMFYLDE MOORE CAREW.

As he increased in years he grew majestic, his limbs strong and well proportioned, his features regular, his countenance open and ingenuous, bearing all those characteristical marks which physiognomists assert, denote an honest and goodnatured mind.

The Rev. Mr. Carew had several other children, sons and daughters, besides Bamfylde. At twelve years of age Bamfylde was sent to Tiverton school, where he contracted an intimate acquaintance with young gentlemen of the first rank in Somersetshire, Devonshire, Cornwell, and Dorsetshire.

He attained for his age, a very considerable knowledge in the Latin and Greek tongues; but soon a new exercise engaged all his attention: this was hunting, in which he soon made a most surprising progress; for, besides that agility and courage necessary for leaping, &c. by indefatigable study and application, added to it a remarkable cheering halloo to the dogs, and which we believe was peculiar to himself; and, besides this, found out a secret, hitherto unknown but to himself, of enticing any dog to follow him.

The Tiverton scholars had at this time the command of a fine cry of hounds, whereby he had frequent opportunities of gratifying his inclinations in that diversion.

It happened that a farmer, living in the country adjacent to Tiverton, who was a great sportsman, and used to hunt with the Tiverton scholars, acquainted them of a fine deer which he had seen, with a collar about its neck, in the fields about his farm, which he supposed to be the favourite deer of some gentleman not far off: this was very agreeable news to the Tiverton scholars, who went in a great body to hunder.