

late, for the unfortunate female, who expired a few hours afterwards from starvation, as the Doctor declared. You may imagine, my Lord, that the remaining eight guineas would not go far in relieving such distress as this. No expense was spared for the relief of the now only surviving sufferer. But so extreme was the weakness to which he was reduced that six weeks elapsed before he could speak sufficiently to relate his own history. It appeared he had been a respectable merchant, and had married a beautiful young lady, eminently accomplished, whom he almost idolized. They lived happily together for some time, until, by the failure of a speculation in which his whole property was embarked, he was completely ruined. No sooner did he become acquainted with his misfortune than he called all his creditors together, laid before them the state of his affairs, and showed them his books, which were in the most perfect order. They all willingly signed the dividend except the lawyer, who owed his rise in the world to this merchant; the sum was £250, for which he obstinately declared he should be sent to jail. It was in vain the creditors urged him to pity his forlorn condition, and to consider his great respectability. That feeling was a stranger to his breast, and, in spite of all their remonstrances, he was hurried away to prison, followed by his weeping wife. As she was very accomplished, she continued to maintain herself and her husband for some time solely by the use of her pencil; and thus they managed to put a little aside for the time of her confinement. But so long an illness succeeded that event that she was completely incapacitated from exerting herself for their subsistence; and their scanty savings were soon expended in procuring the necessaries which her situation then required. They were compelled to pawn their clothes, and their resources failing, they found themselves at last reduced to absolute starvation. The poor infant had just expired from want, and the hapless mother was about to follow it to the grave, when Mr. Wesley and his friend entered, and, as I before said, the husband was so reduced from the same cause as to be with difficulty saved. Mr. Wesley having acquainted himself with the case, went to the creditors and informed them of it.