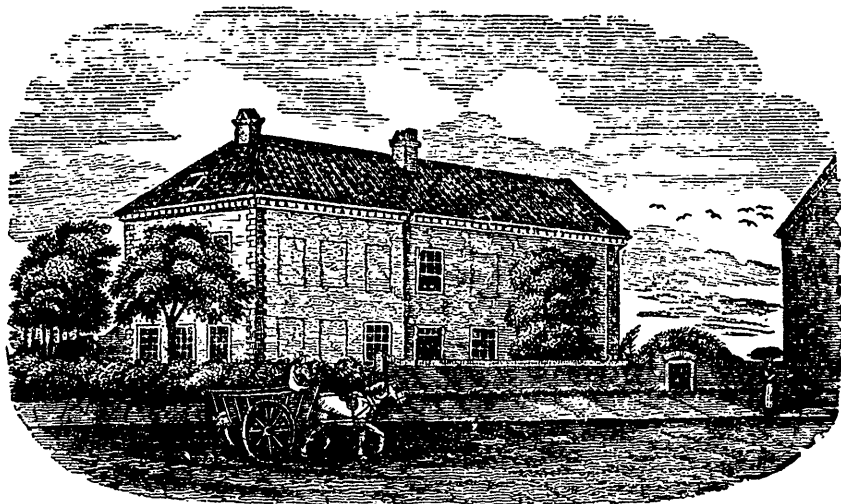


WESLEYANA.



Here the readers of the *Sunday School Guardian* have a view of the house in which JOHN WESLEY was born. It was called the Epworth Parsonage. Samuel Wesley, the father of John, was Minister of the parish, and resided at the parsonage. When John was six years old the parsonage took fire, and was burned to the ground. The first intimation the family had of the fire was the falling of a piece of burning wood upon the bed of one of the children. This burnt her feet and woke her. The fire burned so rapidly that it was with the greatest difficulty the family could escape with their lives. After Mrs. Wesley had escaped in her night dress, having, as she said, *waded* through fire, and the children collected together, it was found that John was absent. He was up stairs, and the stair-case was consumed by the fire. The noise awoke the little fellow, and seeing streaks of fire upon the top of his room, he sought to escape by the door. This he opened, but closed it immediately, as the adjoining room was all on fire.

He then clambered up upon a chest near the window, when he was seen from the window. But there was no ladder to reach up to the window. No time was to be lost : so one man got upon the shoulders of another, and thus reached the window ; got hold of little John, and the next moment the whole roof fell in ! What a providence ! One minute more, and John Wesley would have perished in the flames. Everything in the house was consumed ; but, when John was rescued, good old Samuel Wesley said, "Come, neighbours, let us kneel down ; let us give thanks to God ! He has given me all my eight children ; let the house go, I am rich enough."—We will just mention to our little readers one more circumstance. The day after the fire, as Mr. Wesley was walking in the garden, surveying the ruins of the fire, he picked up the remains of his Polyglot Bible. Only these words were legible : "Go, sell all that thou hast, and take up thy cross, and follow me."