

him to allow me to take off his likeness. 'Well,' said I, 'knowing you value money for the means of doing good, if you will grant my request, I will engage to give you ten guineas for the first ten minutes that you sit, and for every minute that exceeds that time, you shall receive a guinea.' 'What!' said Mr. Wesley, 'do I understand you aright, that you will give me ten guineas for having my picture taken! Well, I agree to it.' He then stripped off his coat, and lay on the sofa, and in eight minutes I had the most perfect bust I had ever taken. He then washed his face, and I counted to him ten guineas into his hand. 'Well,' said he, turning to his companion, 'I never till now earned money so speedily—but what shall we do with it?' They then wished me a good morning, and proceeded over Westminster Bridge.

The first object that presented itself to their view was a poor woman crying bitterly, with three children hanging round her, each sobbing, though apparently too young to understand their mother's grief. On enquiring the cause of her distress, Mr. Wesley learned that the creditors of her husband were dragging him to prison, after having sold their effects, which were inadequate to pay the debt by eighteen shillings, which the creditors declared should be paid. One guinea made her happy! They then proceeded on followed by the blessings of the now happy mother. On Mr. Wesley's enquiring of Mr. Barton, his friend, where their charity was most needed, he replied he knew of no place where his money would be more acceptable than in Giltspur-street Compter. They accordingly repaired thither, and on asking the turnkey to point out the most miserable object under his care, he answered if they were come in search of poverty, they need not go far. The first ward they entered they were struck with the appearance of a poor wretch who was greedily eating some potatoe skins. On being questioned, he informed them that he had been in that situation, supported by the casual alms of compassionate strangers, for several months without any hope of relief, and that he was confined for the debt of half a guinea. On hearing this, Mr. Wesley gave him a guinea, which he received with the utmost gratitude, and he had the pleasure of seeing him liberated with half a guinea in his pocket. The poor man, on leaving his place of confinement, said, Gentlemen, as you come here in search of poverty, pray go up stairs, if it be not too late.' They instantly proceeded thither, and beheld a sight which called forth all their compassion. On a low stool, with his back toward them, sat a man, or rather a skeleton, for he was literally nothing but skin and bone; his hand supported his head, and his eyes seemed to be riveted to the opposite corner of the chamber, where lay stretched on a pallet of straw a young woman, in the last stage of a consumption, apparently lifeless, with an infant by her side, which was quite dead. Mr. Wesley immediately sent for medical assistance, but it was too 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 aiding 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 reputable merchant, and had married a beautiful young lady, eminently accomplished, whom he almost idolized. They lived happily together for some time, until by 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 statement of his affairs, and showed them his books, which were in the most perfect order. They all willingly signed the dividend excepted 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 solely by the use of her pencil in painting small ornaments on cards. And thus they managed to put a little aside for the time of her confinement. But so long an illness succeeded this event that she was completely incapacitated for exerting herself for their subsistence and their scanty savings were soon expended in procuring the necessaries which her situation then required. They were driven 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, that, without the utmost care he must have fallen a sacrifice; and as Mr. Wesley, who was not for doing things by halves, had acquainted himself with this case of extreme misery, he went to the creditors and informed them of it. They were beyond measures astonished to learn what he had to name to them; for so long a time had elapsed without hearing of the merchant or his family, some supposed him to be dead, and others that he had quitted the country. Among the rest, he called on the lawyer, and painted to him in the most glowing colours, the wretchedness he had witnessed, and which he (the lawyer) had been instrumental in causing; but even this could not move him to compassion. He declared the merchant should not leave the prison without paying every farthing! Mr. Wesley repeated his visit to the other creditors, who, considering the case of the sufferer, agreed to raise a sum and release him. Some gave £100., others £200., and another £300. The affairs of the merchant took a different turn: God seemed to prosper him, and in the second year he called his creditors together, thanked them for their kindness, and paid them the sum so generously obtained. Success continuing to attend him, he was enabled to pay all his debts, and afterwards realize considerable property. His afflictions made such a deep impression on his mind, that he determined to remove the possibility of others suffering from the same cause, and for this purpose advanced a considerable sum as a foundation fund for the relief of small debtors. And the very first person who partook of the same was the *inexorable lawyer*."

This remarkable fact so entirely convinced Lord Shelbourne of the mistaken opinion he had formed of Mr. Wesley, that he immediately ordered a dozen of busts to embellish the grounds of his beautiful residence.

**SWEDISH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**—We have learned with much pleasure that the Swedish Missionary Society in Stockholm, has presented the sum of Fifty Pounds sterling to the Wesleyan Missionary Society, to defray the expense of repairing the damage done to the Chapel and Mission premises in the Swedish island of St. Bartholemew's in the West Indies, during the recent hurricane. The Swedish Missionary Society has offered its aid for the support of a Teacher in that island, to supply the place of the benevolent lady who lost her life in the hurricane.

**CHRISTIAN LIBERALITY.**—Mrs. Ayre, of Lynn, has presented to the Wesleyan Missionary Society the munificent sum of Six Hundred Pounds: five hundred of which are to be devoted to Missions and Schools in the West Indies, and one hundred towards sending an additional Missionary to Van Diemen's Land.