

the time of Charles I., and was a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church of England until Episcopacy was again set up in the Established Church. He was one of the two thousand who refused to conform in 1662, and suffered severe persecution for conscience and for Christ, being forbidden by the Five-mile Act to come within five miles of any of his former parishes, or any market town. His grandfather, John Wesley, was also one of the "ejected" ministers. He was imprisoned four times by his relentless persecutors, because he would not desist from preaching the Gospel. At the early age of thirty-four, broken down by continuous suffering and hardships, he found repose in heaven. He was a most earnest and faithful minister of the Word, and an able theologian. His aged father, broken down by persecution and grief for his son, soon joined him in the heavenly land. Wesley's father, Samuel Wesley, whose father and grandfather both had their days shortened by persecution, fearing, perhaps, to face this terrible ordeal, entered the ministry of the Established Church. Hence John Wesley, born in 1703, and Charles Wesley, born in 1708, were brought up within the pale of the Church.

Their gifted mother, justly styled "the Mother of Methodism," also came from a noble Presbyterian family—her father, Dr. Samuel Annesley, nephew of the Earl of Anglesea, being one of the ejected Presbyterian ministers. Dr. Annesley was regarded by many as a second Paul, so abundant was he in labours, and so wholly devoted to Christ. Susanna Annesley was a lady of rare ability, beauty, and refinement, and, withal, profoundly pious. Her rich intellectual endow-