The vast majority of Charles Wesley’s manuscript letters, verse, and records remained in the care of his family after his death—overseen first by his wife Sarah, and increasingly by his daughter Sarah Wesley Jr. When Sarah Jr. died in 1828, the materials passed to her brother Charles Jr. He soon entered into negotiations with Thomas Jackson, culminating in 1831 in the purchase by the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of these manuscript materials and a number of books which had belonged to Charles Wesley Sr. and other family members.1 Jackson initially held the materials, in trust for the Conference. They were later placed in the Methodist Archives, which eventually were housed in the basement of the Epworth Press building in London. In 1976 it was decided to move the Methodist Archives to The John Rylands Library, where they now reside.

The following pages provide a complete list of manuscript verse by Charles Wesley currently in the collection of The Methodist Archives and Research Centre. The first five pages cover items that are either transcribed or noted in this online collection. Items are identified by their accession number or shelf reference in MARC, to aid in locating the original.2 This is followed by the short title or reference where the item can be found on this website. A final two pages list verse items found within the manuscript collection of MARC that are not included in this online collection—typically because they are not by Charles Wesley or they are derivative copies of items where we have access to the original elsewhere.

The Librarian and Director of The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester, has granted permission for publishing in this online collection all of Charles Wesley’s manuscript verse found in the holdings of The Methodist Archive and Research Centre. The Library staff provided extensive support in consulting the manuscript items to prepare the transcriptions offered here. Special thanks are offered for the assistance of Gareth Lloyd, Peter Nockles, Dorothy Clayton, Carol Burrows, Suzanne Fagan, and their associates! Important assistance was also received at the beginning of the project from Patrick Eby, who was pursuing research in these manuscript materials.

1The deed of conveyance, dated 4 August 1831, is in MARC: ref. MAW Ra (Box 6).

2These numbers update older identifications given in Representative Verse and Unpublished Poetry. But we have generally retained the same titles for manuscripts, so that location references cited there can be found easily in our list.
Manuscript Verse Items Included in this Online Collection

**Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 1**

MA 1977/423 MS Richmond Tracts
MA 1977/424 MS Thirty
MA 1977/551 MS Richmond
MA 1977/552 MS Deliberative Hymns
MA 1977/553 MS Psalms
MA 1977/554 MS Shent
MA 1977/555 MS Acts

**Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 2**

MA 1977/556 MS Miscellaneous Hymns
MA 1977/557 MS Epistles
MA 1977/558 MS Friendship I
MA 1977/559 notebook including MS American Loyalists 1783, MS Miscellaneous Poems, and MS Patriotism
MA 1977/560 MS Judges — noted in *Scripture Hymns* (1762), vol. 1
MA 1977/561 MS Clarke
MA 1977/562 MS Friendship II
MA 1977/563 MS Occasional Hymns
MA 1977/564 MS Family
MA 1977/565 MS Shorthand Verse
MA 1977/566 MS Fish
MA 1977/567 MS Shorthand Letters (include only MS Address to a Friend)
MA 1977/569 MS Six
MA 1977/570 MS Howe (photocopy of draft 2)

**Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 3**

MA 1977/573 MS John
MA 1977/574 MS Mark
MA 1977/575 MS Luke
MA 1977/576 MS Scriptural Hymns (OT & NT)
MA 1977/577 MS Matthew
MA 1977/578 MS Death: includes MS Funeral Hymns, MS Hymns for Love, MS Preparation for Death, and MS Death of Mary Horton (draft 3)
MA 1977/583/1 MS Howe (draft 1)
MA 1977/583/2 noted in MS American Loyalists 1783
MA 1977/583/3 MS Patriotism (drafts), 47–49
MA 1977/583/4 MS Courtship
MA 1977/583/5 MS Travail
MA 1977/583/6 MS Miscellaneous Poems, pp. 5–8, 13–18 (pullouts; restored)
MA 1977/583/7 MS Malefactors
MA 1977/583/8 MS Preachers Extraordinary
MA 1977/583/9 MS Revd. —
MA 1977/583/10 MS Preachers 1786
MA 1977/583/11 MS Preachers 1786 (drafts), 7–15
MA 1977/583/12 MS Samuel Wesley, R.C.
MA 1977/583/13 MS Patriotism (drafts), 62–65
MA 1977/583/14 pp. 6–17: MS Patriotism (drafts), 50–61
       pp. 18–24: MS Death of Hannah Butts
MA 1977/583/15 MS Death of Ebenezer Blackwell
MA 1977/583/16 MS Death of Prudence Box
MA 1977/583/17 MS Death of Hannah Dewal (draft 2)
MA 1977/583/18 MS Death of Bartholomew Gallatin (draft 1 & draft 2)
MA 1977/583/19 MS Death of Mary Horton (draft 2)
MA 1977/583/20 MS Death of John Matthews (draft 1 & draft 2)
MA 1977/583/21 MS Ludlow
MA 1977/583/22 MS Death of Dr John Middleton (draft 1 & draft 2)
MA 1977/583/23 #1: MS Small Pox
       #2: MS Death of Thomas Waller (draft 2)
MA 1977/583/24 #1: MS Sarah Bulgin
       #2: in secondary hand; noted in MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, 9–11
MA 1977/583/25 MS Prayer for Truth, pp. 1–8; and MS Prayer for Truth (draft)
MA 1977/583/26 MS Helen Durbin
MA 1977/583/27 MS Patriotism (drafts), 45–46
MA 1977/583/28 MS Funeral Hymns for Hannah Butts
MA 1977/583/29 #1: noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 259.
       #2: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Jesus, who omnipresent art”
MA 1977/583/30 MS Death of Elizabeth Blackwell
MA 1977/583/30a noted in MS Hymn for the King 1784
MA 1977/583/31 #1: MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 10–12
       #2: noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 242–43
MA 1977/583/32 #1: MS Death of William Hitchens
       #2: noted in MS Hymns for Love, 51–52
       #3a: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Humble, penitent zeal”
       #3b: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Stupendous mystery”
       #4: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Father thou knowst I need”
       #5a: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “While blackest clouds”
       #5b: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Tremendous God, severely just”
       #5c: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Judgment is at thy house begun”
       #6: noted in Intercession Hymns (1759), 1–2
#7: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “O God who does the motives know”
#8: MS Preachers
#9: MS Preachers 1786 (drafts)
#10: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Lord, thou dost forever live”
#11: MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 5
#12: noted in MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, 9–10.
#13: MS Patriotism (drafts), 43–44
#14: noted in MS Patriotism (drafts), 5–8
#15: MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 15
#16: MS Patriotism (drafts), 70–72
#17: MS Patriotism (drafts), 66–69
#18: noted in MS Hymns for Love, 71–72
#19: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “How long, how often shall I pray”
#20: noted in MS Scriptural Hymns, 102–3
#21: MS Prayer for Truth, 9–10
#22a: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Christ the Lord, the woman’s seed”

| MA 1977/583/33 | MS Patriotism (drafts), 13 items |

Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 5

| MA 1977/594/1 | MS Henderson |
| MA 1977/594/2 | hymn included in Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., November 15, 1748 |
| MA 1977/594/3 | in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Father, my wretched heart I find” |
| MA 1977/594/4 | #1: noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 246–47 |
| MA 1977/594/5 | #2: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Call’d forth to earn my daily bread” |
| MA 1977/594/6 | MS Protestant Association |
| MA 1977/594/7 | MS version of Hymn for John Wesley (1779) (variants noted there) |
| MA 1977/594/8 | #1: MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 13–14 |
| MA 1977/594/9 | #2: MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 6 |
| MA 1977/594/10 | #1: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Saviour thou hast to Hoary Hairs” |
| MA 1977/594/11 | #2: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Thine wholly, thine alone I’ll be” |
| MA 1977/594/12 | #3: noted in Preparation for Death (1772), 25–26 |
| MA 1977/594/14 | MS version of Hymn for John Wesley (1779) (variants noted there) |
| MA 1977/594/15 | MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 7–9 |
| MA 1977/594/16 | MS Death of Thomas Waller (draft 1) |
| MA 1977/594/17 | noted in Assorted Verse on 1784 Ordinations, 3–4 |
| MA 1977/594/18 | #1: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Jesus, mighty Intercessor,” |
| MA 1977/594/19 | #2: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “What is the grace I fain would prove” |
| MA 1977/594/20 | #1: MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, p. 15 (pull out; restored) |
| MA 1977/594/21 | #2: MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, p. 16 (pull out; restored) |
| MA 1977/594/23 | MS Nursery |
| MA 1977/594/24 | MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786 |
Other Charles Wesley Manuscript Verse Items in Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/1</td>
<td>Letter to John Wesley, January 20, 1728 (contains hymn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/14a</td>
<td>Letter to Elizabeth Witham January 16, 1746 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/16</td>
<td>Letter to Mr. Witham and Sally Witham, December 18, 1747 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/17</td>
<td>Letter to William Lunell, August 21, 1748 (contains epitaph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/19</td>
<td>Letter to Ebenezer Blackwell, April 8, 1749 (contains hymn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 1/23</td>
<td>Letter to Ebenezer Blackwell, September 4, 1749 (contains hymn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 3/2</td>
<td>in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Adverse to Brothers …”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Thou wouldst not have cut off …”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 3/3</td>
<td>incorporated into MS Nellie Durbin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDCW 3/3a</td>
<td>MS Death of Charles Worgan (draft 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 3/4</td>
<td>noted in Assorted Verse on 1784 Ordinations, 1–2</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/6</td>
<td>MS Miscellaneous Hymns (draft), 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 3/8</td>
<td>in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Help of them that succour need”</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/9</td>
<td>MS Death of Mary Horton (draft 1)</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/10</td>
<td>Assorted Verse on 1784 Ordinations, 3–4</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/11</td>
<td>noted in MS Matthew, 163</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/13</td>
<td>in Charles Wesley on His Own Death, 1</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/14</td>
<td>MS Patriotism (drafts), 73–74</td>
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<td>DDCW 3/15</td>
<td>noted in <em>HSP</em> (1749), 2:240</td>
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<td>DDCW 4/3a</td>
<td>Journal Letter, February 23–25, 1747 (contains hymn)</td>
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<td>DDCW 4/8</td>
<td>noted in MS Funeral Hymns</td>
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<td>DDCW 5/11</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., December 30–31, 1748 (contains partial hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/15</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., January 5, 1749 (contains two hymns)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/20</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., January 15, 1749 (contains two hymns)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/25</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., February 5, 1749 (contains hymn)</td>
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<td>DDCW 5/30</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., March 1, 1749 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/33</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., March 10–11, 1749 (contains two hymns)</td>
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<td>DDCW 5/65</td>
<td>MS Funeral Hymns, 107–108 (pull out; restored)</td>
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<td>DDCW 5/66</td>
<td>Letter to Sally, August 9, 1748 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/74</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Wesley, August 17, 1749 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/83</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Wesley, January 7, 1755 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/95</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Wesley, July 3, [1764] (contains short verse)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 5/109</td>
<td>noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns 1786, 37–38</td>
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<td>DDCW 6/15</td>
<td>Journal Letter, July 1–26, 1746 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/26</td>
<td>Journal Letter, August 13–October 3, 1751 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/38</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Wesley, May 1, 1753 (contains hymn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/66</td>
<td>MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 1–3</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/68–70</td>
<td>MS Intercession</td>
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<td>DDCW 6/71</td>
<td>MS Festivals</td>
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<td>DDCW 6/72</td>
<td>MS Preachers 1779</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/74</td>
<td>noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 274–75</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/75</td>
<td>in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Ah, woe is me, whom thorns surround”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “To whom in peril and distress”</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDCW 6/76</td>
<td>noted in MS Hymns for Love, 41–42.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “How shall I wash my heart”

MS Death of Charles Worgan (draft 1)

noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 86–87

part of MS Preachers

in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Genevensis a Friend’s inconsistency ...”

in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Martin woud have pluck’d out”


noted in MS Miscellaneous Poems, 13–15

MS Charles James Fox 1784

Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., March 1748 (secondary copy; contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley, April 5, 1760 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley Jr., June 12, 1780 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley Jr., September 17, 1748 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley, September 13, 1755 (contains hymn)

MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786, 33–34 (pull out; restored)

MS Brothers

two hymns sent with Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., December 20, 1748

Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., January 26, 1749 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., April 3, 1750 (contains hymn)

in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “O My Unsettled Soul”

MS Hymns for Wedding Anniversaries

MS Preachers 1786 (drafts), 22–25

noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 187–88

MS Nursery, 3

noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 150–52

noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 294

#1: in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse: “Great Guardian of thy Church ...”

#2: noted in Thanksgiving Hymns (1759), 18–19

Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., December 27, 1748 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley Jr., September 17, 1782 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley, December 22, 1755 (contains hymn)

Letter to Sarah Wesley, September 21, 1753 (contains hymn)

Letter to Edward Walpole, November [4], 1778 (contains hymn)

MS Tribute to John Wesley

noted in MS Ordinations, 1

Item 3: Assorted Verse on 1784 Ordinations, 5

MS Ordinations (in a set of John Wesley papers; JW V.III)

MS Howe (draft two, original)

(“Farrar Vickers collection”) MS Hymns for King and Queen 1780

noted in MS Matthew, 223–24

noted in MS Matthew, 101–102

Hymn in John Wesley letter, Nov. 21, 1782; see MS Funeral Hymns, 112

Hymns in Charles Wesley’s personal copy of Letters of Mrs. Lefevre (1757).

first hymn noted in Funeral Hymns (1759), 46–49

second hymn noted in MS Funeral Hymns, 105–106
Items of Verse in Charles Wesley Manuscript Collection
Not Included in this Online Collection

Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 3

MA 1977/579  MS Matthew, derivative copy in later secondary hand
MA 1977/580  Derivative copies in secondary hand of several CW hymns (mainly from MS Matthew)

Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 4

MA 1977/583/32  #22b: some shorthand on a page numbered “116” starting a poem “On the Death of Dr ...”; too brief and cryptic to decipher
MA 1977/593/1  Derivative copy in secondary hand of “Hymns on the expected invasion 1759”
MA 1977/593/2  Loose sheets containing textual notes on Charles Wesley’s hymns, in the context of considering a nineteenth-century edition of the hymns
MA 1977/593/3  Loose sheets containing derivative copies of hymns by Charles Wesley entitled “The Psalms by Charles Wesley, M. A. late student of Christ Church Oxford”; clearly nineteenth-century in origin

Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 5

MA 1977/595  Manuscript collection of hymns in the hand of Sally Wesley Jr.; by authors other than Charles Wesley
MA 1977/596  Manuscript collection of hymns in the hand of Sally Wesley Jr.; by authors other than Charles Wesley

Other Manuscript Items

DDCW 6/65  MS copy of William Congreve’s Semele, adapted as oratorio by Handel appears to be in hand of Charles Wesley’s son Samuel
DDCW 6/67  “Birthday of John Wesley” (cf. Unpublished Poetry, 3:451–52.) almost certainly not by Charles Wesley; not in his hand and style not typical likely author is Martin Madan (who had composed a “Bath tune” as referred to in the title)
DDCW 6/73  Derivative secondary copy of DDCW 6/72
Incomplete manuscript notebook (numbered pp. 5–8)
not in Charles Wesley’s hand; 2 of 3 hymns clearly not his
hymn ending on pp. 5–6 is Thomas Oliver’s “Come Immortal King of Glory”
source of paraphrase of Psalm 23 (pp. 6–7) is uncertain but no clear connection
to Wesley (c.f. Unpublished Poetry, 2:441–42)
“Paraphrase of the Lord’s Prayer” (beginning on p. 8) found in various published
collections from at least 1764ff (c.f. Unpublished Poetry, 3:441)

“The Epitaph to Mrs Lunel” (MS Richmond, 89) in secondary hand

Hymn titled “Britain attend the warning voice”
not in Charles Wesley’s hand and no reference to him
published by Peter Brett in Miscellany (Dublin: S. Powell, 1757), 4:107.

Notebook of manuscript copies of six verse items by Sarah Gwynne Jr. (16 pages)
while some of the hymns are by Charles Wesley, they are all derivative copies of
published material

Notebook of manuscript copies of eighteen hymns by Sarah Gwynne Jr. (25 pages)
while some of the hymns are by Charles Wesley, they are all derivative copies of
material published by 1747, when notebook compiled

Examples of Charles Wesley’s “Scripture Playing Cards”

These are small rectangular cards (about 1 in. x 2 in) on which a scripture verse is written
on one side and a short excerpt from one of Wesley’s corresponding hymns in Scripture
Hymns (1762) is written on the other side. They are in manuscript, but all post-date and
are derivative of the published version (with no variants). For more details on how these
cards may have been used, see Frank Baker, “Charles Wesley’s Scripture Playing Cards,”
card can be found in volume 7 (p. 61) of Nehemiah Curnock’s edition of John Wesley’s
Journal.