and hotter, thou shalt also see the reason of that. So
then he had him about to the other side of the wall,
where he saw a man with a vessel of oil in his hand, of
the which he did also continually cast, but secretly,
into the fire.

Then said Christian, What means this?
The Interpreter answered, This is Christ, who con-
tinually, with the oil of His grace, maintains the work
already begun in the heart; by the means of which,
notwithstanding what the devil can do, the souls of His
people prove gracious still, 2 Cor. xii. 9. And in that
thou sawest, that the man stood behind the wall to
maintain the fire; this is to teach thee, that it is hard
for the tempted to see how this work of grace is main-
tained in the soul.

I saw also that the Interpreter took him again by the
hand, and led him into a pleasant place, where was
built a stately palace, beautiful to behold; at the sight
of which Christian was greatly delighted. He saw also
upon the top thereof certain persons walking, who were
clothed all in gold.

Then said Christian, May we go in thither?
Then the Interpreter took him and led him up toward
the door of the palace; and behold, at the door stood a
great company of men, as desirous to go in, but durst
not. There also sat a man at a little distance from the
door, at a table-side, with a book and his ink-horn
before him, to take the name of him that should enter
therein; he saw also that in the doorway stood many
men in armour to keep it, being resolved to do to the
men that would enter what hurt and mischief they
could. Now was Christian somewhat in amaze. At
last, when every man started back for fear of the armed
men, Christian saw a man of a very stout countenance
come up to the man that sat there to write, saying, Set
down my name, sir; the which when he had done, he
saw the man draw his sword, and put a helmet upon
his head, and rush toward the door upon the armed
men, who laid upon him with deadly force; but the