for my part, I say, of her! Should she stay where she
dwells, and retain this her mind, who could live quietly
by her? for she will either be dumpish, or unneigh-
bourly, or talk of such matters as no wise body can
abide. Wherefore, for my part, I shall never be sorry
for her departure; let her go, and let better come in
her room; it was never a good world since these whimsi-
cal fools dwelt in it.

Then Mrs Light-mind added as followeth: Come, put
this kind of talk away. I was yesterday at Madam
Wanton's, where we were as merry as the maids. For
who do you think should be there, but I and Mrs Love-
the-flesh, and three or four more, with Mr Lechery, Mrs
Filth, and some others; so there we had music and
dancing, and what else was meet to fill up the pleasure.
And, I dare say, my lady herself is an admirable well-
bred gentlewoman, and Mr Lechery is as pretty a
fellow.

By this time Christiana was got on her way, and
Mercy went along with her: so as they went, her child-
ren being there also, Christiana began to discourse.
And, Mercy, said Christiana, I take this as an unex-
pected favour, that thou shouldest set forth out of
doors with me to accompany me a little in my way.

Mer. Then said young Mercy (for she was but young),
If I thought it would be to purpose to go with you, I
would never go near the town any more.

Chr. Well, Mercy, said Christiana, cast in thy lot
with me: I well know what will be the end of our
pilgrimage: my husband is where he would not but be
for all the gold in the Spanish mines. Nor shalt thou
be rejected, though thou goest but upon my invitation.
The King who hath sent for me and my children, is one
that delighteth in mercy. Besides, if thou wilt, I will
hire thee, and thou shalt go along with me as my ser-
vant. Yet we will have all things in common betwixt
thee and me: only go along with me.

Mer. But how shall I be ascertained that I also should
be entertained? Had I this hope but from one that can