these be his four children. This maiden is also my companion, and is going on pilgrimage too.

INNOCENT. Then Innocent ran in (for that was her name), and said to those within, Can you think who is at the door? There is Christiana and her children, and her companion, all waiting for entertainment here. Then they leaped for joy, and went and told their master. So he came to the door, and looking upon her, he said, Art thou that Christiana whom Christian the good man left behind him, when he betook himself to a pilgrim’s life?

CHR. I am that woman that was so hard-hearted as to slight my husband’s troubles, and that left him to go on his journey alone, and these are his four children; but now also I am come, for I am convinced that no way is right but this.

INTER. Then is fulfilled that which is written of the man that said to his son, “Go, work to-day in my vineyard; and he said to his father, I will not; but afterward he repented and went,” Matt. xxi. 28, 29.

CHR. Then said Christiana, So be it, Amen. God make it a true saying upon me, and grant that I may be found at the last of him in peace, without spot and blameless.

INTER. But why standest thou thus at the door? Come in, thou daughter of Abraham; we were talking of thee but now, for tidings have come to us before how thou art become a pilgrim. Come, children, come in; come, maiden, come in. So he had them all into the house.

So when they were within, they were bidden to sit down and rest them; the which when they had done, those that attended upon the pilgrims in the house, came into the room to see them. And one smiled, and another smiled, and they all smiled for joy that Christiana was become a pilgrim. They also looked upon the boys; they stroked them over their faces with their hand, in token of their kind reception of them; they also carried it lovingly to Mercy; and bid them all welcome into their master’s house.