Now they were come to the place where the aforesaid battle was fought. Then said the guide to Christiana, her children, and Mercy, This is the place; on this ground Christian stood, and up there came Apollyon against him. And, look, did not I tell you? here is some of your husband’s blood upon these stones to this day. Behold, also, how here and there are yet to be seen upon the place some of the shivers of Apollyon’s broken darts. See also how they did beat the ground with their feet as they fought, to make good their places against each other; how also with their by-blows, they did split the very stones in pieces. Verily, Christian, did here play the man, and shewed himself as stout as Hercules could, had he been here, even he himself. When Apollyon was beat, he made his retreat to the next valley, that is called the Valley of the Shadow of Death, unto which we shall come anon. Lo, yonder also stands a monument on which is engraven this battle and Christian’s victory, to his fame throughout all ages. So because it stood just on the way-side before them, they stepped to it, and read the writing, which word for word was this:

Hard by here was a battle fought,
Most strange, and yet most true;
Christian and Apollyon sought
Each other to subdue.

The man so bravely play’d the man,
He made the fiend to fly;
Of which a monument I stand
The same to testify.

When they had passed by this place, they came upon the borders of the Shadow of Death. This valley was longer than the other; a place also most strangely haunted with evil things, as many are able to testify; but these women and children went the better through it, because they had daylight, and because Mr Great-Heart was their conductor.

When they were entered upon this valley, they thought that they heard a groaning as of dying men; a very great groaning. They thought also that they did