

DITTIES FOR THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

1. A dreamer dreamed upon his bed;
"What shall I do?" a poor man said.
2. *Evangelist* asks, "Why stand and wait?"
"Follow that light to the *Wicket-Gate*."
3. His family cries out; but they cry out in vain;
With fingers in ears, Pilgrim runs toward the plain.
4. His neighbors advise, "Return! Go back home!"
"Don't be a crazy-headed coxcomb!"
5. *Pliable* says, "I think I'll go too."
Soon both of them fall, fall into the *Slough*.
6. While *Help* pulls *Christian* out of the *Slough*,
Pliable returns saying, "I've had it! I'm through!"
7. A *Worldly Wise-Man* then comes along;
"There's an easier way!" (Easier but wrong!)
8. *Evangelist* finds *Christian* standing quite still,
In the dark shadow of a threatening *Hill*.
9. *Good-Will* opens the aforementioned *Gate*,
And pulls *Christian* through before it's too late.
10. At *Interpreter's House* the Pilgrim will stay;
There are things he must learn to help on his way.
 11. By his Master well-supplied,
The pastor is your only guide.
 12. The Law condemns;
The gospel will cleanse.
 13. *Patience* is willing to wait,
Passion must NOW fill his plate.
 14. Despite Satan's toil,
There's One who casts oil.
 15. Brave *Valiant* takes the palace by force;
"Do you know what this means?" He answers, "Of course."
 16. Once for the *City* he seemed quite fair;
Now behind bars, he's a *Man of Despair*
 17. He trembles and shakes; his legs are not steady.
He dreamed the Lord came, and he was not ready.
18. The highway is fenced by a wall on each side;

The *Walls of Salvation* protection provide.

19. At the top of a hill a *Cross* fills his eyes;
His burden falls off—rolls away! What surprise!
20. *Simple, Sloth, Presumption*—each has a chain;
With them *Christian* pleads, but all is in vain.
21. *Formalist* and *Hypocrisy* climb over a wall,
Into *Danger* and *Destruction* both will soon fall.
22. Pilgrims who drink from these waters will
Find strength to ascend the *Difficult Hill*.
23. The Lord has provided a nice, shady knoll;
Here *Christian* rests and reads from his scroll.
24. The Pilgrim's refreshed, but then starts to snooze;
And falling asleep, his scroll he does lose.
25. *Timorous* and *Mistrust* run toward him in flight;
"There are lions ahead! We think they may bite!"
26. Two lions seem to stand in his way;
"Fear not," *Watchful* says, "In the middle stay."
27. He claps his hands and stands by a gate;
Watchful says, "The sun's set. Why are you late?"
28. He speaks with *Discretion*, then *Piety*;
Next he meets *Prudence*, and then *Charity*.
29. They speak of the Lord while enjoying a feast;
Soon *Christian's* asleep in a chamber called *Peace*.
30. The study contains books of antiquity,
Including the *Lord of the Hill's* pedigree.
31. At the top of the *Palace* *Christian* does stand;
From here he can see *Immanuel's Land*.
32. The Pilgrim, with armor and weapons in place,
Is ready for any assaults he may face.
33. The four sisters go with him down the steep *Hill*,
'Cause compared with going up, it's more dangerous still.
34. With smooth words *Apollyon* first tries to charm,
Then fiery darts do the Pilgrim much harm.
35. *Apollyon* cries out, "Now you are mine!"
But he finds his sword—finds it in time.
36. Leaves from the *Tree of Life* his wounds do heal;
Then, sitting down, *Christian's* refreshed by a meal.
37. The *Valley of Death* is as dark as pitch;
On the left is a quagmire; on the right a ditch.

38. Amidst hideous noises he uses *All-Prayer*;
While devils and dangers encompass him there!
39. The end of this valley is scattered with bones;
"You won't learn till you burn," a Giant intones.
40. Christian meets *Faithful*, and with delight they converse,
About Wanton, Shame, Discontent, and Adam the First.
41. *Talkative* speaks of great things far and wide;
He, chewing the cud, does not the hoof divide.
42. "What will you buy?" they're asked at the *Fair*.
"We buy the truth!" (They won't find it there!)
43. With their customs and speech the *Fair's* quite enraged,
So Christian and *Faithful* are cruelly encaged.
44. *Sing, Faithful sing, and let your name survive*;
For though they killed you, yet you're alive.
45. Now *Hopeful's* a pilgrim, since *Faithful* has died;
He joins up with Christian and walks by his side.
46. From a town called *Fair-Speech* comes *Mr. By-Ends*;
He loves silver slippers—just like his three friends.
47. A plain called *Ease* gives the Pilgrims a song;
It satisfies much—but not very long.
48. "Let's go to the mine!" *Hopeful* cries in a rush.
"It's not dangerous," says *Demas* (with a blush).
49. A monument causes the Pilgrims to halt;
A timely sight here—it's a pillar of salt!
50. The *Water of Life* offers many delights;
So they eat and they drink for some days and nights.
51. "There's an easier way just over the fence;"
"You're safe. Follow me," says *Vain-Confidence*.
52. *Vain-Confidence* falls in a pit very deep;
The Pilgrims escape but then fall asleep.
53. The *Giant Despair* treats them both miserably;
Then *Christian* remembers—remembers the key!
54. In the *Delectable Mounts*, four *Shepherds* draw near;
Knowledge, Watchful, Experience, as well as Sincere.
55. A door is opened and brimstone they smell;
"What is this place?" "It's a *By-Way to hell.*"
56. From the top of *Hill Clear* they both can see
The *Gates of the City*—though tremblingly.
57. In a very dark lane *Turn-away* passes by;
From the sign on his back, they understand why.

58. Poor *Little-faith* is robbed and left almost dead,
While *Hopeful's* got shell that's still stuck to his head.
59. The Shepherds had warned them. How could they forget?
Now both are entangled in *Flatterer's* net.
60. *Atheist* says, "There's no *Mount Zion* for you."
So *Christian* asks *Hopeful*, "Is what he says true?"
61. "Let's take a nap. Here's *Enchanted Ground*."
Christian says, "No! There's danger around."
62. Well, *Ignorance*, will you yet foolish be,
To slight good counsel, ten times given thee?
63. From *Beulah Land* the *Celestial City* is viewed;
Here the marriage contract is also renewed.
64. The *Gardener* asks, "Why deep thoughts on the matter?"
"These sweet fruits cause sleeping Pilgrims to chatter."
65. At a very deep *River* they both hesitate;
They must pass through this—to get to the *Gate*.
66. On the opposite bank two shining men wait,
To bring our dear Pilgrims right up to the *Gate*.
67. When for *Christian* and *Hopeful* heaven's gate opens wide,
Our dreamer awakes—wishing he were inside