

Children's Department.

A LITTLE PHILOSOPHER.

The days are short and the nights are long,
 And the wind is nipping cold ;
 The tasks are hard, and the sums are wrong,
 And the teachers often scold,
 But Johnny McCree,
 O what cares he
 As he whistles along the way ?
 It will come all right
 By to-morrow night
 Says Johnny McCree to-day.

The plums are few and the cake is plain,
 The shoes are out at the toe ;
 For money they look in the purse in vain
 It was all spent long ago.
 But Johnny McCree
 O what cares he
 As he whistles along the street ?
 Would you have the blues
 For a pair of shoes
 While you have a pair of feet.

The snow is deep, there are paths to break,
 But the little arm is strong,
 And work is play, if you'll only take
 Your work with a bit of a song.
 And Johnny McCree
 O what cares he
 As he whistles along the road ?
 He will do his best
 And will leave the rest
 To the care of his Father—God.

The mother's face it is often sad—
 She scarce knows what to do ;
 But at Johnny's kiss, she is bright and glad,
 She loves him and wouldn't you ?
 For Johnny McCree
 O what cares he
 As he whistles along life's way !
 The trouble will go
 And I told you so
 Our brave little John will say.

A GOOD SOLDIER.

"A soldier can't do what he has a mind, he does not belong to himself ; he belongs to his commander. He must go and come, do or not do things, just as his general bids him and ask no questions, for he has

nothing to do with the reason of things. All he has to do is his duty. The reason is his general's duty to look after. A soldier, even under a good general, is often ordered to do hard things. "Thou, therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

But after all a good soldier does not find it hard to obey orders. He can't know very often what an order is given for. He cannot judge. He does not know what his general means to accomplish. All he has to do is to obey orders, and if every soldier does that, all is right. A soldier ought to be ready for orders. He must not choose. He does not know when the service will call for him ; he knows his captain does know.

Children remember you are to prove yourselves good soldiers of Jesus Christ. Under his banner you must fight against the world, the flesh and the devil till life's latest close. And His standing command to you all is "Love one another."

PITCHER-PLANTS.

In some hot countries are plants which have a little green pitcher, or long cup, growing out from the end of each leaf. Each pitcher will hold about a pint of water, and is furnished with a lid which keeps out dirt and rubbish. The lid grows so that it is fastened to one edge of the pitcher, like the lid to a cream-pitcher.

When the pitcher is empty, the lid rises, leaving it uncovered ; but, as soon as the pitcher is filled with dew or rain, the lid falls back. This strange plant is sometimes called the monkey-cup, because the monkeys drink the water from the cups. The