

could see him every day, but that was not the same thing as having him always in her room, and hearing his sweet voice in any part of the house. A little prayer for help went up from her heart as she stood there, and then the victory over self was won.

She was afraid to stop and think lest she should change her mind, and she did really

again? And oh, mamma, please do take him quick, because I am so afraid I shall remember how much I want him if you don't go right away."

"Wait a moment, little daughter, and tell me what you mean," said her mother, quieting the excited child. "Why do you want to send Dickie to Nellie? Does she want him?"



"OH, MAMMA, PLEASE DO TAKE HIM, QUICK"

want to follow the blessed example of Christ, even if it cost a struggle.

Putting Dickie back into the cage, she seized it in her arms and ran down stairs to the sitting-room, where she found her mother, who had just come in from a walk, and had not yet taken off her things.

"Mamma!" cried Carrie, impulsively, please, won't you take Dickie to Nellie for me, and tell her she can keep him till she gets quite well

Carrie told her mother how often Nellie had begged for him, and how often she had refused to lend her little pet, and now at last her birthday text had helped her to make up her mind.

"Tell her that Dickie will sing to her how much I love her and how I hope she will very soon get well," said Carrie, as she gave Dickie one last kiss, before her mother took him away.

And so Dickie went as a little messenger of comfort to cheer the sick room, and make the