



"THERE WERE 'COOKIE,' TWO SMALL BROOMS, A CANE, NAMED HENRY M. STANLEY AND THE TWO NEW CHRISTMAS DOLLS."

endure hardship (even little hardships) as good soldiers of Christ."

And the children promised to try, which is the best one can do. The twins always worked with hearty good-will when they were in earnest; but sometimes they forgot and sometimes they didn't try to remember.

"Blanche," said Miss Lucy, coming in late one evening from a long drive, "do you know where my match box is? Laura has misplaced it."

"Indeed I don't" said Blanche, but the little feet that might have run to find Laura did not move from the round of the chair where they had been resting for a half hour or more.

There was another day when aunt Annie asked Helen not to shout so loud, nor run so violently up and down the hall.

"Well, ma'am," replied the little girl rudely, "My mother lets me play this way"; so poor aunt Annie had to try not to mind the noise, though her head ached badly.

"Dear me!" said Helen to herself, that night after she had gone to bed, "I never thought about aunt Annie being an older person. I

s'pose she would be a captain, maybe, in the regular army. Blanche, do you think that aunt Annie would be a captain or a colonel in the regular army?" But Blanche was in dream-land long ago.

In spite of these backslidings, the twin soldiers made some progress during the long weeks that preceded Easter.

They got to Sunday-school every Sunday, giving up dessert in order to be on time; which was quite a sacrifice for two small girls who loved sweet things. They went another day to carry a little sick girl some oranges which grandpa had brought them from town; for, as Blanche said, it did not seem fair for some soldiers to have so many more good things than others, and not be willing to share them.

The first spring days were so full of bright beauty that the children were eager to be out in the warm sunshine. It did seem hard, then, that they must be afflicted with terrible colds at such a time, and be obliged to stay indoors. It was hard to bear; now was the courage of the twin soldiers severely tested, and many lessons of patience and unselfishness were learned.