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weeds, no tall cliffs, no anything but just that long, flat piece of blue writing-paper.

‘Isn’t there any more of it than that?’ I said, and I felt as if Lucy had been telling me a great many stories.

‘Oh yes!’ and Lucy laughed at me again; ‘there is a great deal more than that. Aunt Mary says we are to go down to the shore after tea, and then we shall see everything.’

‘But what is the shore?’ I asked; for you know I had never heard such a word, and did not know what it meant, at all.

Lucy said I was a little stupid, I must wait until after tea, and then I should find out. I think she was rather tired of having so many questions asked. Aunt Mary was helping nurse to unpack the things, so I could not ask her, and I was obliged to wait. You may be sure I was very anxious to have tea and see everything. We didn’t feel a bit hungry, because Lucy and I had been eating biscuits nearly all the time in the train, except when we went to sleep, but I did feel so disappointed every time aunt Mary took a fresh piece of bread and butter, because I knew we could not set off to the shore until she had finished it.