

little rustic chair, near to the lilac-bush where she stood, was a plate of bread and butter and pieces of cake-crust which perhaps had been forgotten, as that was rather an out-of-the-way corner ; so, whilst Mrs. and Miss Aidel and all the rest of the grown-up people were as busy as possible amongst the children, this naughty girl took the opportunity of stealing what was on the plate and putting it in her pocket. I saw her put ever so many pieces in, but I did not like to say anything. I daresay she was very glad that her dirty face had kept her from standing in the ring with the rest of the children, and most likely she was saying to herself that next year she would contrive to be sent away again, and then slip in behind and help herself to cake and bread and butter. It seemed better to have a dirty face than a clean one, because if she had had a clean one she would have stood in the ring with the others, and there would have been no forgotten plate for her to fill her pockets from. However, she found out her mistake before long ; but I will tell you about that after.

When tea was quite over, the children sang a grace again and gave three cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Aidel, and then they went out as they had come in, two and