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the parcel, we found twelve of those delicious little sugar biscuits that I told you about, a long time ago.

I whispered to Lucy that we would keep them until next morning, and Lucy nodded her head. We had our supper as soon as we reached the house,—gooseberry-pie and milk. That was what we had every night at Mrs. Tubbs'. Aunt Mary asked us, when we had finished the pie, if we would not like to have one of our biscuits, but we both said 'no, thank you,' and turned very red indeed. She looked rather surprised, because she knew that we were so very fond of Mrs. Walters' biscuits; so I said,—

'Please, aunt Mary, we've got a secret. We have been making something, and we don't want you to know.'

'Yes,' said Lucy, 'it is about a house, but you are not to ask any questions. Aunt Mary mustn't ask any questions at all, must she, Alice?'

'No, not one,' I said, 'because it's such a very great secret. Lucy and I both said we wouldn't tell you anything about it, nor about our beautiful feast, that we are going——'