

glad indeed to have a feast with us, and she would be quite ready at ten o'clock.

Then we asked Montem if he would come too; but he told us he was going out fishing with Frank and Percy, or he should have been very glad to have joined us. I don't think we were much disappointed about his not coming, because, although he had been kinder to us ever since that affair of the pudding, still he was rather fond of teasing us, and would very likely have made fun of our little house. Aunt Mary never made fun of anything that we did.

So now we only had to make our feast ready. We bought five pennyworth of strawberries and a pennyworth of new milk from Mrs. Tubbs, who was always obliging enough to people who paid her money. She lent us a high stool and a tray and a chair, which Tommy carried down to the little house, and we had our own wooden stools besides. We spread a clean cloth over the tray and put it on the high stool, and we put our strawberries on some large vine-leaves in the middle, and a little pile of biscuits on each side, and the milk in a white jug, and we had Lucy's little china tea-service