

---

they would be quite large enough for her. We both thought it was such a pity that she should only be able to wear a frock when she went out of doors.

Aunt Mary did not come home until nearly our bed-time. She said Skinny's mother was dead, and that the poor little girl was crying very much. The neighbour who lived at the next cottage was taking care of her for a few days, but she would most likely have to go to the workhouse when her mother was buried. Oh! how sorry we were; and aunt Mary was very sorry too, and said she would go home to mamma next day, and ask if something could not be done to help Skinny. She thought she would make a very nice little servant for some one, if only she had some clothes, and that would be a great deal better than going into the workhouse.

Aunt Mary went quite early next day, and we were left to ourselves again to do just as we liked. I should tell you that Montem's schoolmates, Percy and Frank, had gone away with their tutor to stay at a village a little farther on, where there was good fishing, and they had asked Montem