

Their Hearts' Desire

necessary changes in the régime of a growing boy, and many regulations governing John as a toddler might still have been in force at the age of seven but for the interference of his father or Aunt Sue, who came once in a while to visit them. And no amendment to the laws of the nursery, or single departure therefrom, was ever accomplished without a vigorous remonstrance from Jane.

With this glimpse of her character, we may readily surmise that John's enjoyment of the afternoon was a special dispensation of his father's. Jane would never have been guilty of such weakness!

John Belden was seven, and, of course, his world was small, too. But, unlike Jane's, it was one of boundless possibilities, and its horizon widened daily. For with an inquiring mind of unusually quick perception and a loving, responsive nature, he saw much and felt keenly.

Each newly discovered wonder and mys-