

HELEN'S BABIES

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Helen's babies by John Habberton

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JOHN HABBERTON

HELEN'S BABIES



"PAPA CARRIES US UP ON HIS BACK"



Some account
of their ways,
innocent, crafty, angelic, impish, witching,
and repulsive

PARTIAL RECORD OF THEIR ACTIONS
DURING TEN DAYS OF THEIR EXISTENCE

ILLUSTRATED BY TOD DRIGGINS

GROSSET AND DUNLAP
NEW YORK

PS 1769

U5 44

1908

MAIN

Dedication

Everyone knows that there are, in the World, hundreds of thousands of fathers and mothers, each one of whom possesses the best children that ever lived. I am, therefore, moved by a sense of the eternal fitness of things to dedicate this little volume to

The Parents of the
Best Children in the World

with the reminder that it is considered the proper thing for each person, to whom a book is dedicated, to purchase and read a copy.

284344

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first cause, so far as it can be determined, of the existence of this book may be found in the following letter, written by my only married sister, and received by me, Harry Burton, salesman of white goods, bachelor, aged twenty-eight, and received just as I was trying to decide where I should spend a fortnight's vacation:

"HILLCREST, June 15, 1875.

"DEAR HARRY:—Remembering that you are always complaining that you never have a chance to read, and knowing you won't get it this summer, if you spend your vacation among people of your own set, I write to ask you to come up here. I admit that I am not wholly disinterested in inviting you. The truth is, Tom and I are invited to spend a fortnight with my old school-mate, Alice Wayne, who, you know, is the dearest girl in the world, though you *didn't* obey me and marry her before Frank Wayne appeared. Well, we're dying to go, for Alice and Frank live in splendid style; but as they haven't included our children in