

THE BOOK PAGE

That the Bible heroes should each tell his own story in his own way, rather than have the story told for him, is a happy thought, which Edward Leigh Pell has carried out in two especially charming little volumes, **The Story of Joseph, the Dreamer: As Told by Himself** (Fleming H. Revell Co., Toronto, 57 pages, colored illustrations, 35c. net), and **The Story of David, the Idol of the People: As Told By Himself** (same publisher, 80 pages, colored illustrations, 35c. net). Nothing could be more direct and lifelike than the way in which the stories are told. No boy or girl will take up these books and lay them down again without having gone through them—and without being very greatly the better of the process. David's account of the fight with the giant is told with all the verisimilitude and modesty of a good sport; nor does that wonderfully good and wonderfully wicked king attempt to hide his sins and faults. The chapter in which he tells of the death of Absalom is one of the best in the book.

In the story of Joseph, the writer takes the opportunity of giving an intimate picture of the ancient Egyptian daily life and of the magnificences of the Egyptian court. It is rather startling to find amongst the exploits of Egyptian surgeons, that they removed cataracts from the eye, filled teeth with gold, set the broken bones of birds, and of the wonderful mosaic glass work where thousands of threads of glass of many colors were placed together in such a way as to form a beautiful picture, and then fused into one by heat, the mass being afterwards sawn into thin slices

with a very fine saw, so that there were six pictures instead of one, and all exactly alike. Joseph's account of his honors and struggles and temptations, is good reading for older people than mere boys.

The motif of **The House not Made With Hands**, by David Lyall (The Musson Book Company, Toronto; Hodder & Stoughton, London, 328 pages, \$1.25) is found in the lines with which it closes from Dr. J. G. Holland:

"Only in dreams is a ladder thrown
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls;

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But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies

And we mount to its summit round by round."

The central figure in the story is Alison Fleming, the mainstay of a Scottish manse family after her mother's death, and housekeeper in the same manse when her younger brother had succeeded his father as minister. How she was obliged to leave the manse when her brother married and herself became the wife of a wealthy manufacturer, who was bitterly hated by his employees, how she built for herself a secure place in the affections of her husband's family by a former marriage, becoming also the most powerful influence in the transforming of his character, and how, after his death, she became the central and controlling figure in a new home, surrounded by her step-children and brother, now a widower with an infant child, is a story of strong human interest.

The Boy's Own Paper

The Girl's Own Paper

THESE TWO SPLENDID MONTHLIES are of the highest standard of juvenile magazine literature. They appeal chiefly to the young people of school age. The best writers of boys' and girls' stories contribute to their pages, and every issue is beautifully illustrated. They are full of good stories of school and home life, romance, adventure, travel, besides scores of articles of a useful character—the kind in which boys and girls delight. No home where there are young people should be without these splendid magazines. Subscribe now.

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