

### THE BOOK PAGE

We will mail to your address any book noticed on this page, on receipt of price plus 10c. postage. If postage is found to be less than 10c. balance will be returned to sender. Address E. Douglas Fraser, Presbyterian Publications, Toronto.

Thomas Allen, publisher, Toronto, sends us Mrs. Eleanor H. Porter's **Just David** (324 pages, 11 full-page illustrations, \$1.25), just off the press. It is a lovely book for these war times, for there is nothing about the war in it, and its charming idealism and gospel of cheerfulness—just what we would look for in the author of *Pollyanna*—are a mighty refreshing of spirit in the days when so many tragedies are happening. • Little ten year old David appears on the cover, with his little violin under his arm, and the little violin plays all through the two or three years of the story, which opens in the sunshine of little David's lonely mountain hut, where his father, a famous violinist, disappeared, with his little boy of four, stricken by a slow but sure decline. The two, in the absolute innocence and joy of the mountains, had lived by themselves, all alone, and David had been initiated into the delights of nature and of his violin till he spoke as naturally through its strings as with his tongue. Then follow dark, dark days for the child artist. The story of how he won through them himself, and brought light and gladness into other darkened lives, holds the reader's attention to the last sentence. By all means read *Just David*.

**The Church's Children:** A Manual for the Parents of Baptized Children; by Dr. Edgar Whitaker Work (The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 52 pages,

25c.), is a little book which ministers or sessions might well give to the parents of every child at his baptism. It tells in a simple straightforward way just what baptism means and what the privilege and duty of parents towards their children whom, in baptism, they dedicate to the Lord. We have seen nothing better. It contains a page Certificate of Baptism, and is so daintily bound in white and gold that it will make a pretty as well as a most useful gift.

Theodore Roosevelt's newest book, **Fear God and Take Your Own Part** (George H. Doran Company, New York and Toronto, 414 pages, \$1.50 net) is, of course, in part political. It could scarcely be otherwise considering who the writer is. But it is very much more. It is an unanswerable plea for righteousness and the rights and liberty of mankind and how every nation, his own in particular, should stand for these. It is prefaced by Julia Ward Howe's *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, and answers in every page to the closing words of that imperishable battle song:

"As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,

While God is marching on."

Amongst many other things, the stories of the United States and Mexico and the United States and the German outrages are scathingly detailed. The application, which is as unsparing, and is made in great detail, is summed up in the sentence: "National unselfishness—which is another way of saying service rendered to internationalism—can become effective only if the nation is willing to sacrifice something, is

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