

**A SHEPHERD AMONG  
WOLVES:  
WAR-TIME LETTERS  
OF CARDINAL MERCIER**

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A shepherd among wolves: war-time letters of Cardinal Mercier by Désiré Mercier & Arthur Boutwood

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**DÉSIRÉ MERCIER & ARTHUR BOUTWOOD**

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A SHEPHERD AMONG WOLVES

*J'exprime au chef vénéré de l'Église catholique romaine, mon admiration pour la conduite du Cardinal MERCIER qui, à l'exemple des glorieux prélats du passé, n'a pas craint de proclamer la vérité à la face de l'erreur et d'affirmer les imprescriptibles droits d'une juste cause au regard de la conscience universelle.*

*ALBERT I<sup>er</sup>  
Roi des Belges.*

Univ. of  
CALIFORNIA



H.E. CARDINAL MERCIER, ARCHBISHOP OF MALINES (MECHLIN).



# A SHEPHERD AMONG WOLVES

War-Time Letters of Cardinal Mercier

SELECTED (WITH HIS EMINENCE'S PERMISSION) BY

ARTHUR BOUTWOOD

FROM

*"Un Évêque défenseur de la cité."*

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TO THE  
MEMBERS

## EDITOR'S PREFACE

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CARDINAL MERCIER needs no introduction to the people of England—he has spoken for himself in deeds which made a dark time splendid with the civic virtues of the christian life, and his name is revered wherever heroic sanctity and saintly patriotism are valued.

The pastor and defender of a martyred people in a violated land, at once an apostle and a patriot, he is foremost among those whom the needs and duties of terrible days have made pre-eminent, and, in his country's grateful memory, his name will be immortal. For Belgian generations yet unborn he saved the Belgian Fatherland, and that inheritance of faith and strength which he has preserved for them will be all the greater because of what he was and of what he did.

In these letters and allocutions we see the agony of Belgium, and we see the Cardinal at work. We see him consoling and encouraging, assiduous for the integrity of the national sentiment, fortifying Belgium's stricken but unconquered soul,—we see him uplifting Patriotism into the high circle of christian duties, purging national retribution from private passion, making the Justice of God his people's confidence. It is a record of things which should not be forgotten.

HAKLUYT EGERTON.