

BELGIAN POEMS

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Belgian poems by Émile Cammaerts & Tita Cammaerts

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ÉMILE CAMMAERTS & TITA CAMMAERTS

BELGIAN POEMS



Meriel Batthust

1915

BELGIAN POEMS

CHANTS PATRIOTIQUES

ET AUTRES POÈMES PAR

EMILE CAMMAERTS

ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS BY

TITA BRAND-CAMMAERTS

WITH A PORTRAIT BY VERNON HILL

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À
MA FEMME

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PREFACE

MOST of the translations contained in this volume do not aim at regularity either in metre or in rhyme. Mme. Cammaerts' only purpose has been to follow, as closely as possible, the swing of the French verse, with its constant changes of rhythm, in order to facilitate the task of those who might experience some difficulty in reading the original.

Thanks to the generosity of Miss A. Bryer, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Mr. A. P. Graves and Mr. G. H. Bush, we have been able to include their excellent versions of four of the poems.

We must express our gratitude to the editor of the *Observer* for allowing us to reproduce here the *Patriotic Songs* which were first published in that paper, and to the editor of the *Spectator* for allowing us to reproduce the translation of *A Voice in the Desert*.

We must also thank the editor of the *English Review* for granting us permission to reprint the poem, *Easter in Belgium*.

The proceeds of this first edition are to be devoted to the Belgian Soldiers' Fund for the purchase of tobacco.

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