



HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL MERCIER
Archbishop of Malines, Primate of Belgium

Courtesy Parisian Art, Inc., New York City

Painted by GONZALES GAMARRA

This fearless defender of the Belgian people voluntarily stayed in Belgium during the German occupation in order to protect his helpless and oppressed fellow-countrymen, while Albert, the soldier-king, fought in the trenches to regain the freedom of his beloved land. Cardinal Mercier was to the German tyrants "more terrible than an army with banners." They feared him, but they dared not touch him, in spite of his bold denunciations of their lawless oppression. It was his voice that was raised to protect the Belgians without distinction of race or creed and it is his voice that will convey to America the gratitude of the whole Belgian nation for our sympathy and help in time of trouble. Cardinal Mercier will come to the United States in September, not as a churchman, but as the spokesman of the entire Belgian population. The Cardinal was born November 22, 1851, and was made Cardinal and Archbishop of Malines February 21, 1906.