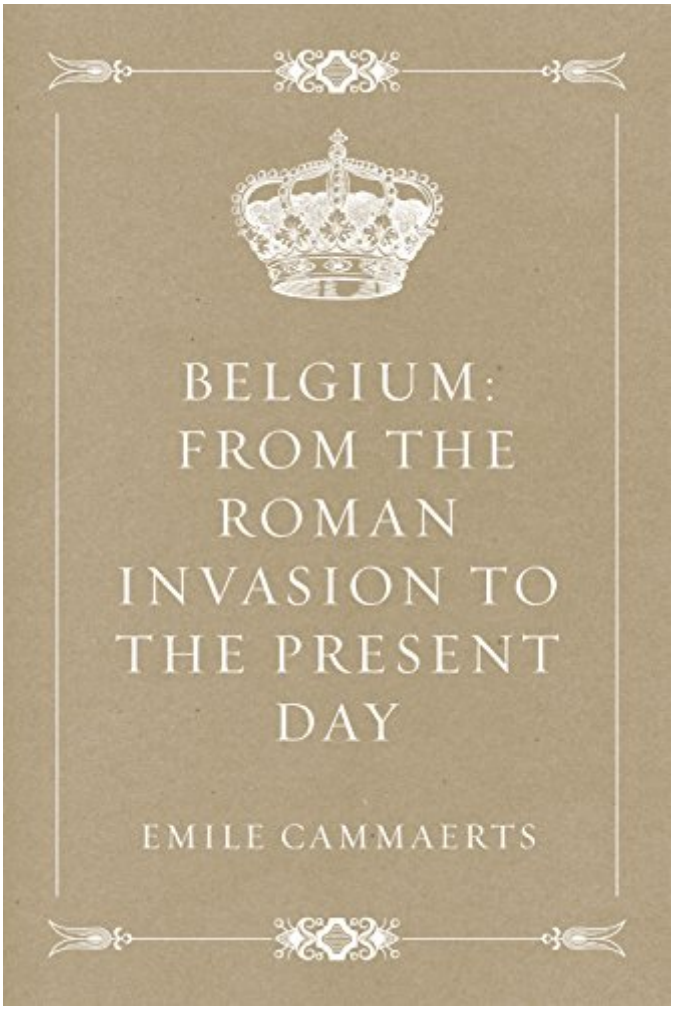
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Belgium: From The Roman Invasion To The Present Day



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Synopsis

Ãƒâ mile Leon Cammaerts CBE was a Belgian playwright, poet and author who wrote primarily in English and French. Demonstrating his interests, Cammaerts translated three books by art, history and landscapes expert John Ruskin and selected G. K.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If only for the perspective of belgium and the region generally about its history, but also for the "real time" view of the interwar period.

good book

Check the publishing date! 1921.

I purchased the book for my husband as his family is from Belgium and he said there was alot of information in the book which was of interest to him.

I had know so little about Belgium but had a friend whose family was from there. The father a candy chef, family name Spronkan

I needed a cumulative history on Belgium and this filled me in on the general history of the country. Belgium holds a personal interest to me family wise but I had very little knowledge of its history.

This book is in the public domain, so even if is not offering it, you can still download it for free, legally, from several websites. This book was first published in 1921, the printed edition has 291 pages.This book is, in spite of its age, a very enjoyable read. I recommend it to anyone who is interested in the history of the Low Countries/Belgium, or in history in general.The book starts with a chapter on Celts, Germans and the Roman conquest; it has many chapters on the Middle Ages (including a whole chapter on the 'Battle of the Golden Spurs'); the separation between the Netherlands and Belgium; there is a whole chapter on Rubens; and there are chapters on the Napoleonic period, the economy, politics, World War I, and more.From the introduction by the author:_Belgium_ is neither a series of essays nor a systematic text-book.Chronological sequence is preserved, and practically all importantevents are recorded in their appointed time, but special stress hasbeen laid on some characteristic features of Belgian civilization andnational development which are of general interest and bear on thehistory of Europe as a whole.As an example I copy the third paragraph of the first chapter:[...]But at the time of the Roman conquest (57 _B.C._), Belgium, that is tosay the country peopled by various tribes designated by Julius CÃƒÆ'Ã Â¦sarunder the name of "BelgÃƒÆ'Ã Â¦," was very different from what it is to-day.The flat coast, unprotected against the incursions of the sea, wasbordered by wide marshes, while all the southern part of the countrywas covered by a thick forest, the "Silva Carbonaria," which merged inthe wild plateaux of the Ardennes and formed, at the time, a seriousobstacle to any incursion coming from the north or the east.[...]

I cannot say I had great expectations. I like history and it was free. Much to my surprise the further I read the more I wanted to continue. I have learned quite a bit on how Belgium came to be despite substantial odds, speak 2 languages yet hold themselves together, and became the home of The Hague. Perhaps not a book for everyone yet oddly interesting.

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