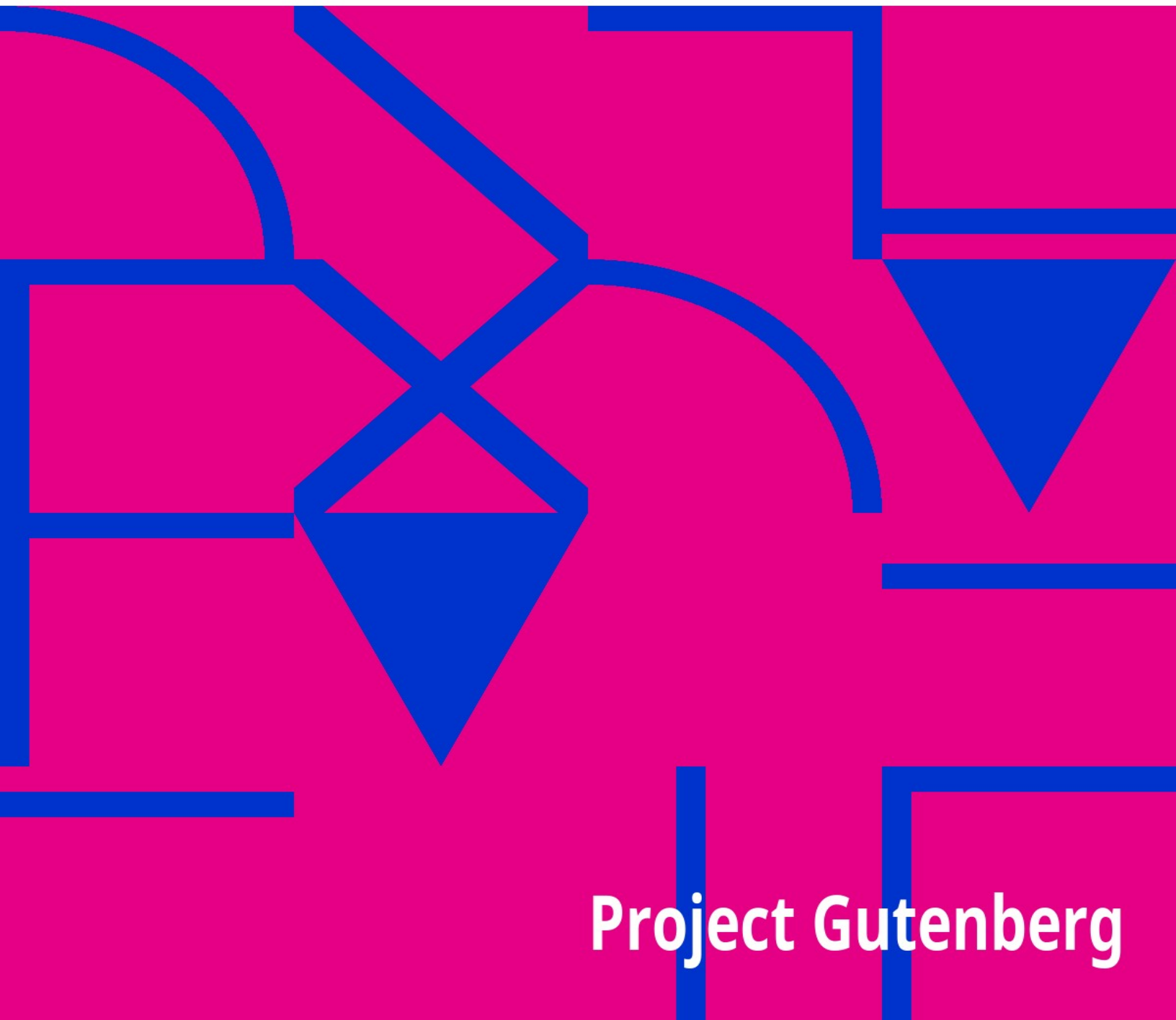


Improvisos de Bocage

Manuel Maria Barbosa du Bocage



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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK
IMPROVISOS DE BOCAGE ***

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+IMPROVISOS+

DE

+BOCAGE,+

NA SUA MUI PERIGOSA ENFERMIDADE,

DEDICADOS

A SEUS BONS AMIGOS.

*Parve (nec invideo) sine me, Liber, ibis in Urbem: (Hei mihi!)
quò Domino non licet ire tuo.*

Ovid. Trist. Lib. I. Eleg. I.

LISBOA, NA IMPRESSÃO REGIA.

Anno 1805.

Por Ordem Superior.

+AOS AMIGOS.+

+SONETO I+

Terno Paz [1], bom Maneschi [2], Aurelio [3] caro,
Alvares extremoso [4], Almeida humano [5],
Ferrão [6] prestante, valedor Montano [7],
Moniz [8], que extráhes teu nome ao Tempo avaro:

Freire [9], Viana [10], Blancheville [11], ó raro,
Moral thesoiro, que possúe Elmano;
Sócio de Flóra [12]; e tu de som Thebano
Ó Cysne [13]! E tu, Cardoso, em letras claro [14]:

Monumento honrador da Humanidade,
(Se o Fado me sumir da Mórte no Ermo)
Grata vos deixa cordial Saudade.

Ireis nos versos meus do Globo ao termo,
Por serdes, com benéfica Piedade,
Nuncios, Nuncios de hum Deos ao Vate enfermo.

[1] Francisco José da Paz.

[2] João Pedro Maneschi.

[3] Marcos Aurelio Rodrigues.

[4] Antonio José Alvares.

[5] Joaquim Pereira de Almeida.

[6] Prior dos Anjos.

[7] José Ventura Montano.

[8] Nuno Alvares Pereira Moniz.

[9] Gregorio Freire Carneiro.

[10] Gonçalo José Rodrigues Vianna.

[11] Diogo José Blancheville.

[12] O Padre Mestre Fr. José Marianno da Conceição Veloso.

[13] João Vicente Pimentel Maldonado.

[14] O Desembargador do Porto Vicente José Ferreira Cardoso. Devo tambem mencionar honrosamente o Doutor Manoel Joaquim de Oliveira, Medico em Lisboa; o meu amigo Polycarpo, da Rua Nova da Rainha; o Director do Correio Geral; e José Maria de Oliveira, Filho do Administrador dos Seguros do mesmo Correio: todos para comigo instrumentos da Providencia.

Se estiver nos meus Fados a proxima extincção de meus dias,

+EPITAFIO.+

De Elmano eis sobre o mármore sagrado
A Lyra, em que chorava, ou ria Amores.
Ser delles, ser das Musas foi seu Fado:
Honrem-lhe a Lyra Vates, e Amadores.

Quod licet, inter vos nomen habete meum.

Ovidio.

+SONETO II.+

Se o Grande, o que nos Orbes diamantinos
Tem curvos a seus pés dos Reis os Fados,
Novamente me dêr ver animados
De modésta Ventura os meus Destinos;

Se acordarem na Lyra os sons Divinos,
Que dórmem (já da Gloria não lembrados)
Ao Côro ethéreo, candidos, e alados,
Honrar com Elle hum Deos ireis, meus hynos.

Mas, da humana Carreira inda no meio,
Se a débil flor vital sentir murchada
Por Lei que envôlta na existencia veio;

Co'a mente pelos Ceos toda espraiada,
Direi, de Eternidade ufano, e cheio:
«A Deos, ó Mundo! ó Natureza! ó Nada!»

+SONETO III.+

Pela voz do Trovão Corisco intenso
Clama, que á Natureza impéra hum Ente,
Que cinge do áureo Dia o véo ridente,
Que véste d'atra Noite o manto denso.

Pasmar na Immensidade he crer o Immenso:
Tudo em nós o requer, o adora, o sente.
Próvão-te olhos, ouvidos, peito, e mente?
Numen! Eu oiço, eu olho, eu sinto, eu penso.

Tua Idéa, ó Grão Ser, ó Ser Divino,
Me he vida, se me dão mortal desmaio
Males que soffro, e males que imagino.

Nunca Impiedade em mim fez bruto ensaio:
Sempre (até das Paixões no desatino)
Tua Clemencia amei, temi teu Raio.

+SONETO IV.+

Caro a Fébo, a Filinto, a Lysia, á Fama,
Na Lácia Fonte, e Argiva immerso Alfeno [15],
Pelas Deosas Irmãas fadado Ismeno [16],
Em que he Numen Razão, Verdade he flamma:

Canóro Melibêo [17], por quem derrama
Invéja, e Glória o néctar, e o veneno;
Filósofo Cantor, meu doce Oleno [18],
Doce ao Sócio infeliz, que em ais te chama!

Elmiro [19], que de Sóphia o grão Thesoiro
Revolves, possessôr, com mão suprema;
E outros, que o Téjo honrais, o Vouga, o Doiro [20];

Dai-me que o Léthes sorvedor não tema:
Por vós comprado ao Tempo em versos de oiro,
Cysne talvez que sôe á hora extrema.

[15] O Bacharel Domingos Maximiano Torres.

[16] João Vicente Pimentel Maldonado.

[17] Miguel Antonio de Barros.

[18] Nuno Alvares Pereira Moniz.

[19] José Agostinho de Macedo.

[20] Hum dos que honrão o Doiro he Bento Henriques Soares, amigo do chorado João Baptista Junior (Author da nova Castro) amigo, como eu, daquelle, cuja memoria deve saudosamente viver em quanto o Engenho, e a Moral forem dotes de preço. O glorioso ao Vouga he Francisco Joaquim Ringre, que pelo sabor da Antiguidade, que ha nas suas Poesias, e pelo estro que as levanta, merece esta nota.

+SONETO V.+

Desejo illuso, e vão! Para que traças
Quadro, que imagens divinaes offrece?
A terna, ausente Amada me apparece,
Em Ceo de Amores eclipsando as Graças.

Ante a doce Visão, com que me enlaças,
(Já murcho, estéril já) meu ser florece;
Mas súbito Fantasma eis desvanece
Chusma de encantos, que em teu sonho abraças.

Croado de Cypreste o Desengano,
O meu nada me agoira... ó dor! mais forte
Do que em seu gráo supremo o esforço humano!

Chorai, Piedade, e Amor, tão triste sorte,
Chorai: longe de Anália expira Elmano;
Os que a Ternura unio desune a Morte.

+SONETO VI.+

Dura Filosofia audaz forceja

Por dar-me essencia nova ao pensamento;
De bronze diz que forre o soffrimento,
E em brazas, como em flores, manso esteja:

Diz, que, ó Leis de Zenôn [21], por vós me reja;
Que sabe do alto Systema alto Portento:
«Os órgãos vivem, morre o sentimento,
«E mudo, e frio, o coração caleja.»

Mas ah! Mais sabio que Zenôn o Eterno,
Fonte ás lágrimds deo, deo fonte ao riso:
Co'a Lei das sensações meu ser govérno.

Se eu folgasse entre o mal que em mim diviso,
Na mente ousára unir o horror do Inférno
Aos Sóes, de que se esmalta o Paraíso.

[21] Discipulo de Crates, e Fundador do Estoicismo, ou Seita dos Estóicos. Quando o Homem crê visinhar com o seu Nada, (o Nada Universal) as sombras, em que o envolvem, o abafão as suas

paixões, se rarefazem, e esvaecem aos lumes da Justiça, e do Desengano: ou já lhe bróte sobrenaturalmente n'alma este fenómeno, ou já porque, evaporado o amor proprio, attente mais nos outros que em si. Eu, talvez nesse estado, ou não longe d'elle, confesso ingenuamente, que, pela suavidade, e apuro do métro (nas composições lavradas com mais desvélo, e mais gosto) pelas flores, pelos esmaltes Poéticos de que as ameniza, e formosêa, (em especial as Báchicas) Belmiro está mui sobranceiro aos Engenhos vulgares. A Razão me pede, que lhe honre o mêmrito; e o Coração, que lhe releve a, talvez, injustiça, com que trabalhou remover-me de hum gráo, havido da Voz pública.

+SONETO VII.+

Agora que a seu lôbreco Retiro
Como que a baça Morte me encaminha,
E o coração, que as ancias lhe adivinha,
Débil se ensaia no final suspiro:

Musa de Elmano, e Musa de Belmiro,
Una-se a gloria sua á gloria minha:
Meu nome aguarentou com voz mesquinha,
Eu justo ao seu não fui, e a sê-lo aspiro.

Nem tu me esquecerás, Gastão cadente [22],
Lustroso apar do mim, quando de chófre
Igneas canções brotei, c'um Deos na mente.

Abri, Verdade, abri teu áureo cófre:
Isto Elmano extrahio co'a mão tremente
No sério ponto que illusões não sóffre.

[22] Se a locução, a fantasia, e o rhythmio caracterizão a mente Poética, aponto D. Gastão Coutinho como dorade com estes thesoiros do Espirito. Não sôa, como devêra, (e altamente) o louvor

de Thomas Antonio dos Santos, e Silva nos meus talvez ultimos versos, porque em outros, de monção mais Febéa, e já divulgados, lhe teci elogios, em que a fraterna amizade, que de muito nos liga, nada proferio avêso á justiça, e ao tom circunspecto do Discernimento.

+SONETO VIII.+

Não mais, ó Tejo meu, formoso, e brando,
Á márgem, fértil de gentis verdores,
Terás d'alta Ulysséa hum dos Cantores,
[23] Suspiros no áureo metro modulando.

Rindo não mais verá, não mais brincando
Por entre as Nynfas, e por entre as Flores
O Côro divinal dos nús Amores,
Dos Zéfytos azues o affavel Bando.

Co'a fronte já sem myrto, e já sem loiro,
O arrebatada de rôjo a mão da Sôrte
Ao Clima salutar, e á márgem de oiro.

Ei-lo em Fragas de horror, sem luz, sem nórtē;
Sôa daqui, dalli piado Agoiro:
Sois vós, Desterro eterno, Ermos da Mórte!

[23] *Carmina Pastoris Siculi modulabor avenâ.*

Virgil. Eclog. 10.

+SONETO IX.+

Nestóreos Dias, que sonhava Elmano,
Brilhantes de almos gostos, de aurea Sorte,
Pomposa Fantasia, audaz Transporte,
As azas cerceai do Orgulho insano.

Plano de hum Numen contradiz meu plano,
E quer que se esvaeça, e quer que abórte:
Eis, eis palpita, precursor da Mórte,
No tímido aneurisma o Desengano.

A Deos, ó Génios que Ulysséa admira:
(Cantor, que honrastes, honrareis, Cantores)
Versos, prantos lhe dai, que Elmano expira.

Deixai-lhe a cinza em paz, fataes Amores;
E vós, do extinto Vate a Campa, e Lyra,
[24] Virtudes, que exaltou, cobri de flores.

[24] Beneficencia, e Piedade, celebradas no Epicedio ao Marquez d'Angeja.

Ao Senhor Nuno Alvares Pereira Moniz.

+SONETO X.+

Co'a mente juvenil, sublime, alada
Sabes da térrea Mansão, Mansão profana;
Introduzes, Moniz, a idéa ufana
Lá na de Sóes sem conto Estancia ornada.

Já, de Lysia cantando a Historia honrada,
Sôas qual Grega Musa, ou qual Romana;
Já, medrando nos Céos a força humana,
Teu Metro creador faz Ente o Nada.

Nove Deosas louçãas, tres Deosas nuas
Te abrem thesoiros: cada qual te admira
No verso graças mil, que fôrão suas.

Assás luzio teu Estro: a mais aspira;
E estranho não será que substituas
A tuba de Marão de Flacco á Lyra.

Quero (se meus dias findarem) deixar huma prova do muito em
que tive, do muito que merecem os talentos de hum dos meus mais
caros Amigos.

Ao súbito desastre de hum Poeta amado da Nação.

+SONETO XI.+

Cantor, que a fronte erguia engrinaldada
Comvosco, Idálias crôas: myrto, e rósas,
Que vio por mão das Tágides formósas
De aljôfares a Lyra, e de oiro ornada;

Mente, de ethéreos Dons abrilhantada,
Que, sôlta em producções louçãas, pompósas,
Surgio, voou com azas luminósas
Ante o Bando que vai de rôjo ao Nada;

Estro, opulento do Febêo Thesoiro,
(Já dos épicos Sons talvez no ensaio)
Ouvio sahir das trévas triste agoiro.

Seu Fado o fulminou, bateo-lhe o raio
Á Sombra tua... ai dor! Lá mesmo, ó Loiro:
Chorai-o, Amores, Tágides, chorai-o.

De Author anónimo; porém que he facil conhecer pelo estilo.

Votos pelo restabelecimento da saude de Bocage.

+SONETO XII.+

Não mais, Nynfas gentis do Téjo undoso,
Pungidas de alta dor, vagueis insanas:

Croai-vos de floridas espadanas,
Ou de grinaldas de coral ramoso.

Já não rechinão do arco sanguinoso
D'atroz Doença as séttas inhumanas
Contra o Cysne que as ondas Tagitanas
Enfrêa com o Carmen portentoso.

Serpes da Inveja, Serpes agoireiras,
Emmudecei, que a válida Saude
Assoma, entre Esperanças lisonjeiras.

Vem, bella Deosa, ao Vate Elmano acude,
Que eu grato forjarei nestas Ribeiras
Hymnos, batidos na Thebana incude.

Pelo Bacharel Domingos Maximiano Torres.

+SONETO XIII.+

Se as arduas Leis da sãa Filosofia
Sacra Egíde não são contra a Desgraça,
Então em que desdiz a humana Raça
Das outras, que Razão não alumia?

Seus venenos distille a Tyrannia,
Raivoso o Fado em raios se desfaça:
Alma, que o lume da Razão repassa,
Sórve tranquilla o néctar d'Alegria.

Quando a Ventura ao pensamento acóde,
E não próva revezes o Desejo,
Embates d'Afflição qualquer sacóde.

Aos males na constancia ser sobejo
A poucos dado foi; Elmano o póde:
Dá, que hum novo troféo glorie o Téjo.

Moniz.

Ao Senhor Manoel Maria de Barbosa du Bocage, em resposta ao Soneto pag. 6., pelos mesmos coasosantes.

+SONETO XIV.+

Em teu Genio s'inflamma fogo intenso,
Brilhante emanação d'um Deos, d'um Ente,
Que as Estrellas, a Lua, o Sol ridente
N'um dia fez surgir do Cháos denso:

Teu extasis t'eleva a Espaço immenso,
Sentes impulsos, que o Mortal não sente;
Eis lúcido clarão te abraza a mente,
E o Ser encaras, por quem vivo, e penso.

Pasmado, absôrto no fulgor Divino,
Repasado de atônito desmaio,
Ant'o Solio do Eterno t'imagino:

Acordas, e do Canto em novo ensaio
Dos Athêos aviltando o desatino,
Louvas hum Deos, e tremes do seu raio.

Por J. A. Soares.

Ao senhor João Pedro Maneschi, por ocasião do incendio em que perdeu todos os seus bens.

+SONETO XV.+

Nos puros Lares teus assoma, irado,
Vulcano em ondas de indomavel chamma;
Impetuoso cresce, horrivel brama:
Parece accezo pela mão do Fado!

Em ferventes vorágens desmandado,
Tudo afêa, ennegrece, abraza, inflamma,
E em cinza inutil, súbito, derrama
Teus merecidos bens, Manéschi honrado.

Mas tu dessa fatal, visivel Péste,
Dessa, do Inferno imagem devorante,
O damno, estrago, horror baldar pudéste.

Rico de huma Alma singular, constante,
Tens, tens tudo: Amizade, que te préste,
Dó, que te chóre, e Musa, que te cante.

A composição deste Soneto he anterior á minha molestia, mas a
Gratidão me ordena pô-lo aqui.

*A huma Donzella de estremada Belleza, de rara Virtude, e morta
na flor dos annos.*

+SONETO XVI.+

De Homens, e Numes suspirado Encanto,
Lilia, innocente como virgem Rósa,
Lilia, mais branda, Lilia, mais formósa
Que a Nynfa éthérea, de puníceo manto:

Eu, e os Amores (que perdêrão tanto)
Damos-te ás cinzas oblação mimósa:
Curva goteje minha Dor saudósa
Na molle offrenda, que requer meu pranto.

Em teu sagrado, perennal Retiro
Disponho, ao som de lânguidas querélas,
A rosa, o cravo, a túlipa, o suspiro.

Medrai no chão de Amor, florinhas béllas...
Ah Lilia! Eu gózo o Ceo!... Lilia! Eu respiro
Tua alma pura na fragrancia déllas!

Pedio-mo Pessoa, que virtuosamente a amava; e a mágoa do
assumpto, apurada na tristeza da minha situação, deo hum Soneto,
que talvez penhore os corações ternos.

*Na gravissima enfermidade do Senhor Manoel Maria de Barbosa
du Bocage.*

+SONETO XVII.+

Elmano! Elmano! Os que te ouvirão rindo,
Penhas, e Montes, que teu Metro alçava,
Clamar faz hoje a Dôr, que em pranto os lava,
E, mais que todos, o Permesse, e Pindo.

Bosques, Paizagens, que teu verso lindo
Em dobro enriquecêo, teu mal aggrava:
Chorão-te Graças, Nynfas, que elle honrava,
O niveo rosto com as mãos cobrindo.

Inda, Cysne do Téjo, inda teu Canto,
Bem que rouco, s'escuta; e em desconsolo
Já das Musas te chora o Côro santo.

Quando não ergas o mellífluo collo,
Quem restará chorar-te? Hum Deos em pranto
Se ha de então vêr, chorando o mesmo Apollo.

Por Thomaz Antonio dos Santos, e Silva.

Em resposta ao antecedente: Elmano a Tomino.

+SONETO XVIII.+

Vapor doirando, que me afuma os Lares,
(Porque a Morte os bafeja de contino)
Sôlto de ti relampago divino,
[25] Milton de Lysia, alumiou meus ares.

O bem d'ouvir-te, o bem de me chorares
Quasi que irmana desigual Destino:
«Tu de assombros Cantor, (Fébo, ou Tomino)
«Eu Ave, eu órgão de pavor, de azares.»

Níveo matiz d'auríferas arêas [26],
Cysne qual Jove outr'ora [27], e que no alado
Extasi aos Céos a melodia altêas!

Vóz, de que adóro o cântico sagrado,
Vóz, que a dor minha, o Fado meu prantêas!
Dá-me teus sons, e cantarei meu Fado. [28]

[25] Pelo estro, e pela cegueira.

[26] As do Téjo.

[27] Quando se tornou Cysne por Leda.

[28] Porque então a gloria compensa-me a fortuna.

Apesar do que digo a pag. 10, sempre tive ocasião de honrar o
meu insigne Compatriota.

+SONETO XIX.+

Genio mordaz, que o Mérito golpêa,
Nadando em ondas de sulfúrea chamma,
Leva de rôjo a Musa que do Gama
Cantou prodigios mil, de gloria chêa.

Sem luz o Triste, e sôfrego da alhêa,
Razões fallaces imagina, e trama;
Porém, risonha, não desmaia a Fama
Q'entre os Luzeiros immortaes vaguêa:

Não eu assim, que, atónito, e curvado,
Teus sons adóro, magestoso Elmano,
Pelos Salões Febêos extasiado!

Vate, crédor do Século Romano!
Digno Daquelle, a cuja sombra, e lado
Cantava outr'ora o Cysne Mantuano!

Por D. Gastão Fausto da Camara Coutinho.

+SONETO XX.+

Se na que, mórna, e lúgubre, murmura,
Corrente Avérna, como as sombras densa,
Dér quéda enórme a sôfrega Doença
Que á vida quer sorver-me a fonte impura:

De eleitos Vegetaes sagaz mistura
Não foi rígido estôrvo á Morte infensa:
Só póde aos olhos meus Virtude immensa
A do Horror ferrolhar Morada escura.

Arde, ó Estro! Fulmina o Monstro humano,
Que origem vil ao Mundo, a si presume,
E á Causa divinal repugna, insano.

Salvè, Principio d'Alma, ethéreo Lume!...
Se hun Deos não fôra, que seria Elmano!
Existe o Vate por que existe o Nume.

+FIM.+

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