

Salve, Rei!

Camilo Castelo Branco



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Author: Camilo Castelo Branco

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+SALVE, REI!+

POESIA DE

Camillo Castello Branco

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Rua dos Retrozeiros, 41 e 43

MCMXV

SALVE, REI!

Publicações de Frazão de Vasconcellos

1—*No Centenario da Guerra Peninsular*—Dr. Jacintho Luiz do Amaral Frazão e Vasconcellos. Folha solta, 1910.

2—*Auto-biographia de Herculano*—No 1.º centenario do seu nascimento—Com uma nota—Folheto, 1910.

3—*Diccionario nobiliarchico portuguez*—Incompleto.

4—*Cousas de Camillo*—Poesia *Salve, Rei!*, com uma nótula. Folheto, 1911.

5—*Crês tu? Sim ou não?*—Poesia. Folheto, 1912.

6—*Elementos de heraldica*—Com gravuras, no «Jornal da Mulher».

7—*Justiça do Marquez de Pombal*—Folheto, 1915.

8—*Ascendencia materna do Desembargador João de Barros, auctor do «Espelho de Casados»*. Folheto, 1915.

EM PUBLICAÇÃO:

Linhagistas e heraldistas portuguezes.

Um revolta no Rio de Janeiro em 1660—Nota á margem d'uma biographia de Salvador Corrêa de Sá.

EM PREPARAÇÃO:

Centúria de curiosidades historicas.

A heraldica nas vinhetas ornamentaes dos livros portuguezes.

Tiragem deste opusculo: 50 exemplares

ELUCIDAÇÃO

Em 1911, quando fazíamos ainda parte da redacção da *Nação*, reproduzimos naquelle periodico, n.º 15.255, de 13 de Outubro, a poesia +Salve, Rei!+, de Camillo Castello Branco, de que mandámos tirar uma *separata*, de 32 exemplares numerados, sendo 3 em papel Whatman e os restantes em papel de linho nacional.

Estando todos aquelles exemplares distribuidos, e sendo muitos os camillianistas que desejam possuir a poesia +Salve, Rei!+, resolvemos, sem nenhuns intuitos mercantís, que tambem da primeira vez não tivemos, pois que a edição foi destinada unicamente a offertas, fazer a presente reedição daquela pouco conhecida producção do *Maior de Todos*, como justificadamente os seus mais enthusiastas admiradores cognominaram o auctor do *Amor de Perdição* e de tantissimas obras que honram a litteratura portugueza.

Eis a razão desta nova *especie* da extensissima bibliographia camilliana.

Novembro de 1915.

Frazão de Vasconcellos

Nótula da nossa 1.ª edição

A poesia que se segue, dedicada a El-Rei Dom Miguel I, por ocasião do seu casamento, foi impressa originalmente, em janeiro de 1852, em uma folha solta, e reproduzida no diário legitimista *A Nação*, n.º 1834, de 22 de novembro de 1853, em paralelo com uma outra poesia do mesmo Camillo, transcripta do jornal *O Portuense*, de 17 de novembro de 1853, em honra de Dona Maria II, a quando do seu fallecimento.

Na sua preciosa *Bibliographia Camilliana*, refere-se o nosso presado amigo Sr. Henrique Marques a esta pouco conhecida producção do notabilissimo e fecundissimo espirito que foi Camillo Castello Branco, dizendo que viu um exemplar da folha solta, na Bibliotheca Pública do Porto, e informando mais que o *Jornal da Manhã*, daquela cidade, a reproduziu no seu n.º 137, de 19 de maio de 1890.

Frazão de Vasconcellos

SALVE, REI!

Cantor d'outr'ora, quando vi sem flores
Os magicos jardins da phantasia,
 Minha lyra depuz.
Não mais pedi inspirações terrenas.
Curvei-me ante o altar, sagrei meu estro
 Aos canticos da cruz.

E, sem magoa, quebrei prisões da terra,
Mas uma, se então quiz tambem quebral-a,
 Não pude... em vão tentei...
Eram saudades a viver d'esp'ranças,
Saudades, que nem Deus manda esquecel-as,
 Saudades do meu Rei!

Ficava-me no mundo um nome grande,
Um symbolo d'amor, de luz radiante,
 Sob um manto real...
Imagem do que vi na minha infancia,
Sentado no docel, herança augusta
 Dos Reis de Portugal

Christão, pedi com fé—senti que a tinha
Prostrado ante o altar, quando eu pedi
Recursos ao meu Deus...
Recursos, não pr'a mim que nasci servo,
Recursos para Vós, Rei desterrado
Sob inhospitos céus!—

Pulsou-me o coração, senti no labio,
Em vez da oração, soltar-se o hymno
D'um peito portuguez!
Ás lagrimas succede essa alegria
Dos extasis que á mente imprimem vôos
D'energica altivez!

Rei! no dia em que descestes
Do Vosso throno real
Apagou-se a luz da gloria,
Cerrou-se o livro da historia
Do Reino de Portugal.
Surge o anjo do exterminio
Sobre as trevas infernaes!
Traz de fogo a fera espada,
E com mão ensanguentada
Rasgas as purpuras reaes.

Sobre o solio dos Affonsos
Ferreo sceptro esmaga a lei:
Ruge alli o despotismo
Se não verga ao servilismo
Quem lhe diz «Tu não és Rei!»
Não és Rei! és uma affronta

Feita ao povo portuguez!
Não és Rei que não herdaste
Este chão que escravisaste
A quem falso Rei te fez!

Vaga o anjo do exterminio
Como inspiração do algoz!
Corações com Vossa imagem,
Oh meu Rei! são a carnagem
Do punhal que fere atroz!
Foram dias de martyrio,
De terror e maldição!
Mas o martyr, expirando,
Esquecia-Vos só quando
Lhe morria o coração!

Vaga o anjo do exterminio
Do mosteiro sobre a cruz,
E roçando a negra aza
Pela cruz o templo arraza
E do altar extingue a luz.
Cospe injurias e sarcasmo
Sobre a face do ancião,
Porque orava, é réo, e expulso
Foge á morte, e cede ao impulso
De penuria, e pede pão.

Pede o pão que amassa em pranto
De saudades que crê vem
D'uma cella que comprára
Quando o mundo cá deixára

Com as pompas que elle tem!
Pede o pão que lhe usurparam
Com tamanho desamor...
Fraco, ao vêr que chega a morte,
Morre... e então mostra que é forte
Perdoando ao matador!

Lá, no campo da carnagem,
Mutilado um corpo jaz...
Ficaram-lhe alli seus ossos...
Pois que foi um d'entre os Vossos
Real Senhor! não terá paz.
Nem a paz dos que morreram
Sem a nodoa da traição
Nem a paz da sepultura
Ao fiel que honrado jura
Morrer sob o seu pendão

Lá se abraça ao corpo exangue
No abandono da viuvez
A que alli vive arrastada
Mendigando, envergonhada,
Improperios... talvez!
Pobre, e só, mãe de tres filhos
Quando a fome a constrangeu,
Inda assim, um pensamento,
Uma esperança, um grato alento
Foi por Vós que o concebeu...

Vaga o anjo do exterminio
Enverga o manto real;

D'um diadema a fronte cinge,
Mas o sangue que lh'o tinge
Brada vingança fatal!
N'essa fronte ensanguentada
Escreveu a mão de Deus!...
Mas também homens puzeram
Inscrições onde se leram
Infamias como tropheus!

Oh Rei de Portugal! Quando a amargura
D'este povo infeliz, é sem conforto,
Valemo-nos do céu!
Pedimos-lhe por Vós, anjo proscripto,
Pedimos-lhe vigor á doce espr'ança
Que em vós o céu nos deu!

Vireis, Senhor vireis, que Deus é justo!
Vireis enxugar lagrimas amargas
Que se choram por Vós!
Sereis de todos Pae, não vingativo,
E nós todos irmãos, e Vós de todos...
O Rei de todos nós!

Fatidica aureola circumda
Nas plagas do desterro dolorosas
Vossa fronte real.
Sentado sobre as rochas da montanha
Lá mesmo na solidão d'amargo exilio
Sois Rei de Portugal!

Deu-vos um anjo a Providencia augusta
Em galardão á dôr que amargurastes

Com Santa intrepidez.
Um dia curvaremos o joelho
Perante Essa que o ceu fadou Rainha
Do povo portuguez.

Camillo Castello Branco

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