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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK CERVANTES E PORTUGAL ***

CERVANTES E PORTUGAL

CURIOSIDADE LITTERARIA

POR

CARLOS BARROSO

**DEDICADA AO RESPEITAVEL DR. E. W. THEBUSSËM
BARÃO DE THIRMENTH**

**LISBOA
ANNO 325 DO NASCIMENTO DO AUTOR DE D. QUIXOTE**

CERVANTES E PORTUGAL

Los libros de caballería son la protesta contra el feudalismo, y Cervantes la gran estatua que corona el renacimiento.

Emilio
Castelar.

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra appellidado por seus compatriotas, o

Manco de Lepanto

, por ter sido mutilado n'aquelle celebre combate naval, segundo consta de sua biographia veio a Lisboa com Phelippe II em 1581 onde se namorou de certa dama incognita e de quem teve uma filha, cujo nome foi Isabel de Saavedra. Suppõe-se que seus amores na côrte lusitana lhe inspiraram a linda novella pastoril da

Galatea

, onde o autor figura disfarçado no pegureiro Lauso que suspira pela formosa pastora Silena. O escriptor de tão bello idyllio assistiu á tomada das Ilhas Terceiras pelo marquez de Santa Cruz.

Começarei as minhas investigações pelo prologo do famoso poema critico

D. Quijote

.

Alli dedica Cervantes um merecido elogio ao famoso rio Tejo que beija as praias da inclita cidade de Ulysses, e cujas arêas consta da tradição serem de ouro.

Percorrendo esta obra digna de ser lida por todos os que se prezam de verdadeiros litteratos, deparamos no capitulo 6.^o da sua 1.^a parte, que entre os livros que adornavam a bibliotheca do engenhoso fidalgo, se encontraram além de outros de autores portuguezes o

Palmeirim de Inglaterra

, cuja composição se attribue a um

discreto

rei de Portugal, e tambem a

Diana

de Jorge de Montemayor.

Quando o Heroe da Mancha exalta a imaginaria gerarquia da senhora de seus pensamentos D. Dulcinea do Taboso, afirma que não é oriunda de outras familias celeberrimas de Hespanha que menciona, nem mesmo dos Alencastros, Pallas e Menezes de Portugal.

O pastor Lope Ruiz, com cuja historia entretem Sancho Pança o seu temerario amo, ao fugir da ingrata Torralva, detem-se nas margens do Guadiana antes de passar com seu rebanho para Portugal.

O reino da princeza Micomicona era maior que Portugal e Castella juntos.

Na 2.^a parte, suppõe o escudeiro de D. Quixote que mais de 12:000 exemplares da historia de seu valente patrão, se achavam n'aquelle tempo impressos, e afirma como testemunhas do que refere a Portugal, Barcelona e Valencia.

O rio Guadiana entra

pomposo

e

grande

em Portugal. Na profunda e tenebrosa cova de Montesinos promette o

caballero de los leones

á sua phantastica amante, andar por causa d'ella as sete partidas do mundo com mais pontualidade que o infante D. Pedro de Portugal.

Para provar a verdade da existencia dos cavalheiros andantes, diz o da Triste Figura ao conego de Toledo: «Si no diganme tambien que no es verdad que fué caballero andante el valiente lusitano Juan de Merlo, que fué á Borgoña, y se combatió en la ciudad de Ras con el famoso señor de Charny, llamado Mosen Enrique de Remestan, saliendo de entrambas empresas vencedor y lleno de honrosa fama.»

Era do

excelentissimo

Camões uma das eclogas que haviam de representar as pastoras em cujas redes se embaraçou o pensativo escravo de Dulcinea.

Passando do primor de Cervantes á sua quasi rival Galatea, lê-se que o pae da linda heroína das margens do aurifero Tejo, intenta prendel-a com os laços de hymineo a um pastor lusitano das ribeiras do deleitoso Lima. Que bellos são os versos da apaixonada amante de Erastro quando ao despedir-se do seu dourado rio, canta:

«¡Que tengo de despedirme
De ver el Tajo dorado!
¡Que ha de quedar mi ganado,
Y yo triste he de partirme!»

É pena que tão deslumbrante produção ficasse por acabar e que o leitor ignore se os zagaes do manso Henares chegaram a rechassar o pastor estranho.

Passemos ás

Novellas Exemplares

.

Na da

Hespanhola ingleza

, Ricaredo depois de separar-se de Isabella, seguindo a derrota das Ilhas Terceiras, em que sempre se encontravam navios portugueses das Indias Orientaes, aproxima-se com effeito de um carregado de especiarias e de tantas perolas e diamantes, que valiam mais de um milhão de ouro, e levava trezentas pessoas, ao qual abastece de artilheria por tel-a alijado durante uma tespestade.

Quando Isabella parte para Hespanha, promete o capitão do baixel á rainha de Inglaterra de aportar a Lisboa, Cadix ou Sevilha.

No

Licenciado Vidraça

observa-se a anecdota do portuguez que pintava as barbas de negro, o qual altercando com um castelhano disse-lhe: «por estas barbas que tenho no rosto», a quem redarguiu o liceneado: «não digaes tenho, dizei

tiño

(palavra hespanhola que em portuguez equivale a

tinjo

).

Na

Força do sangue

, o arrebatador da honra de Leocadia afim que ella para o futuro o desconhecesse inteiramente, ao deixal-a com os olhos vendidos junto á igreja da praça, muda a voz e annuncia-lhe em lingua meio portugueza e meio castelhana, que póde d'alli ir para casa de seus paes.

No

Zelloso extremenho

, diz Loaysa ao negro guarda da jovem esposa do velho Carrizales, que sabia cantigas capazes de fazer pasmar até aos portugueses.

A negra Guiomar era portuguesa.

No

Colloquio dos cães

, Berganza vitupera os que fallando mal o latim introduzem sua ruim linguagem qual cobre dourado nas conversações eruditas, como os portugueses fazem com os pretos de Guiné.

Na

Tia fingida

, ha a seguinte phrase que acho muito graciosa: «á poco rato vieron venir una reverenda matrona, con unas tocas blancas como la nieve, mas largas que sobrepelliz de canónigo portugués.»

Ao descrever-se na mesma novella o character de todos os povos da peninsula, tambem se menciona o dos portugueses, ainda que de um modo pouco lisongeiro.

É em Lisboa que o barbaro hespanhol embarca para Inglaterra.

Em lingua portuguesa canta o namorado Manuel de Sousa Coutinho seus amores por que morre depois de os relatar, e cuja narração occupa todo o capitulo X do livro I dos

Trabalhos de Persiles e Segismunda

.

Na interessantissima parte 3.^a dos mesmos presenceamos a chegada a Portugal e desembarque dos viajantes na praia de Belem, d'onde se dirigem á

famosa

Lisboa, cujos ricos templos e hospitaes são celebrados. A seguinte passagem merece ser lida em seu primitivo idioma: «aquí el amor y la honestidad se dan las manos, y se pasean juntos; la cortesía no deja que se le llegue la arrogancia, y la braveza no consiente que se le acerque la cobardía: todos sus moradores son agradables, son corteses, son liberales y son enamorados, porque son discretos: la ciudad es la mayor de Europa y la de mayores tratos; en ella se descargan las riquezas del Oriente y desde ella se reparten por el universo; su puerto es capaz, no solo de naves que se puedan reducir á número, sino de selvas movibles de árboles que los de las naves forman: la hermosura de las mujeres admira y enamora, la bizarría de los hombres pasma, como ellos dicen; finalmente, esta es la tierra que da al cielo santo y copiosísimo tributo.»

Em S. Julião, que no original se vê escripto

Sangian

, é revistado o navio em que vinham os peregrinos. A formosura de Auristela e a galhardia de Periandro são o alvo da admiração do governador do castello e de seus habitantes.

Não se esquecem os devotos peregrinos de visitar o historico mosteiro de Santa Maria, e dirigindo-se depois por terra á capital, constantemente acompanhados

de plebeya y cortesana gente

encontram-se por acaso com um dos vinte fugitivos da ilha selvagem, que tendo presenciado a morte do desditoso Coutinho, volvera á patria, e dera conta do successo aos parentes do fallecido, que o accreditaram

por tener casi en costumbre el morir de amores los portugueses

, mandando depois d'esta noticia fabricar um tumulo de marmore branco, e como se n'elle estivesse enterrado, applicou-lhe seu irmão uma lapide na qual se lia a seguinte inscripção em portuguez, que traduzida do castelhano reza assim:

AQUI JAZ VIVA A MEMORIA
DO JÁ MORTO
MANUEL DE SOUSA COUTINHO,
CAVALHEIRO PORTUGUEZ,
QUE SE NÃO FOSSE PORTUGUEZ AINDA VIVERA.
NÃO MORREU ÁS MÃOS
DE NENHUM CASTELHANO,
MAS SIM ÁS DO AMOR, QUE TUDO PÓCE;
PROCURA SABER SUA VIDA,
E INVEJARÁS SUA MORTE,
PASSAGEIRO.

O qual lido por Periandro confirmou que excede na composição de epitaphios a gente da nação portugueza.

O cavalleiro que entrega o menino recém-nascido a Ricla, diz-lhe que seus inimigos o perseguem, e que se por alli passarem e lhe perguntarem por elle, diga-lhes que apenas tinha visto tres ou quatro homens a cavallo que iam gritando *á Portugal, á Portugal*.

Mais adiante conta o polaco as suas aventuras em Lisboa, onde inopinadamente mata certo fidalgo, filho de uma senhora, em cuja casa se refugia o assassino para subtrahir-se á justiça; a mãe do assassinado sem saber do caso, esconde-o por detraz dos tapetes de sua mesma alcova, tem a generosidade de não o entregar á justiça depois de saber do crime que o seu protegido havia commettido, e para não faltar á hospitalidade perdôa-lhe, e dá-lhe fuga pela porta occulta de seu jardim.

Ao fallar Cervantes de Valencia e de suas lindas mulheres, diz que é gracioso o dialecto valenciano, e que só com o idioma portuguez *puede competir en ser dulce y agradable*.

O sumptuoso palacio de Manases em que se hospedaram os peregrinos em Roma achava-se situado junto ao arco de Portugal.

Emfim, o retrato da bellissima Auristela feito em Lisboa por um pintor portuguez, foi por outro pintor comprado em França e d'alli transportado á Hespanha.

, canto IV, depois de descrever o autor a deidade que personifica a Poesia, e de dizer que o Sul lhe brinda perolas, Sabea perfumes, o Tiber ouro, e Hibla suavidade, continúa:

«Galas Milan, y lusitania amores.»

Mais adiante e no mesmo canto lê-se:

«Aquel discreto Juan de Basconcellos
Venía delante en un caballo bayo,
Dando á las musas lusitanas celos.

E pouco depois:

«Así como las naves que cargadas
Llegan de la oriental India á Lisboa,
Que son por las mayores estimadas;
Esta llegó desde la popa á proa
Cubierta de poetas, mercancia
De quien hay saca en Calicut y en Goa.

E elogiando a alguns poetas diz no canto VII:

«De la alta cumbre del famoso Pindo
Bajaron tres bizarros lusitanos,
A quien mis álabanzas todas rindo
 Con prestos pies y con valientes manos
Con Fernando Correa de La Cerda
Pisó Rodriguez Lobo monte y llanos.
 Y porque Febo su razon no pierda,
El grande Don Antonio de Ataide
Llegó con furia alborotada y cuerda.

Entre os sonetos que compoz Cervantes, observa-se um dirigido ao marquez de Santa Cruz que se apoderou das ilhas dos Açores.

Em conclusão; nos seus onze entremezes só duas cousas se lêem referentes a Portugal, e ambas no da

Guarda cuidadosa

, em que apparece um vendedor ambulante que entre outras cousas apregoa

hilo portugués

, e varias scenas depois um soldado que menciona a grande peça de Diu existente em Lisboa, não sei se no Arsenal do Exercito. São estas as suas palavras--«No habiéndome espantado ni atemorizado tiros maiores que el de Dio, que está en Lisboa.»

O que me faz collegir que o dicto militar presenciou o memoravel cêrco.

É isto tudo o que li relativo a Portugal nas obras do immortal critico das Hespanhas, e que fielmente relato, rogando aos que lerem este folheto me desculpem a má linguagem em que o escrevi em

Lisboa, aos 18 de fevereiro de 1872.

NOTA

Referindo-se a Bento Caldera (portuguez) primeiro traductor dos Lusiadas em castelhano, diz o sr. visconde de Jurumenha na sua bella edição das obras do immortal Luiz de Camões, 1860, as seguintes palavras: «O celebre Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra fez menção da traducção e traductor n'estes versos na sua

Galatea

liv. VI,

Canto de Caliope

Tu que de luso el singular tesoro
Irigiste en nueva forma á la ribera
Del fertil rio, á quien el lecho de oro
Tan famoso le hace adonde quiera;
Con el devido aplauso, y el decoro
Devido á ti, Benito de Caldera,
Y á tu ingenio sin par prometo honrarte,
Y de lauro, y de hiedra coronarte.

FINIS CORONAT OPUS.

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK CERVANTES E PORTUGAL ***

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