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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK A VELHA DISCIPLINA: VERSOS ***

Produced by Vasco Salgado

J. Dumont (Orlando)

+A VELHA DISCIPLINA+

VERSOS

(A proposito da injustificada condemnação dos marinheiros pelos Conselhos de Guerra)

LISBOA IMPRENSA GOMES Rua do Sol ao Rato, 74

1906

Aos benemeritos defensores dos infelizes marinheiros:

Dr. Nobre de Mello

- " José d'Abreu
- " Lomelino de Freitas
- " Sarmento Osorio
- " Borges de Sousa
- " Irnaldo Monteiro

OFFERECE E DEDICA

+O auctor+

+A disciplina+

Emquanto cá por fóra o povo em romaria

Ia buscar ao campo a rustica alegria, Emquanto os beberrões de capa de cambraia Passeavam andor's nos sitios d'Atalaya, Na torre negregada, a bastilha do mar, Uma tragedia triste estava-se a passar.

Quem as ondas domou, domou o furacão, Da tempestade riu e zombou do trovão, Quem viu o vasto oceano em vagas tormentosas Tornar em vivo inferno um lindo mar de rosas, Quem nunca vacillou em arriscar a vida Sustendo do gentio a rude arremettida, Estava ali curvado, a fronte bem submissa, Com sede de razão á espera de justiça.

Nas suas almas sãs de bravos marinheiros Todos uma familia, amigos e companheiros, Onde só a excepção pôz vis denunciantes, Trastes sem cotação, emeritos tratantes, Havia côr de rosa a lisongeira esp'rança De ver luzir no céo o arco da bonança.

E quem estava ali ouvindo o julgamento, Vendo tudo cahir sem base ou fundamento, Quem via sossobrar a velha accusação De tetrica revolta ou negra sedição, Quem via que um protesto unanime, geral, Fôra do movimento a causa inicial, Calculava que o fim de tanta crueldade Seria um acto bom de generosidade.

Porém, surgiu ali a D. Disciplina, Cabello em desalinho, a garra que é tigrina Adunca e collossal; a hysterica madona, A serodia vestal, a bellica matrona, Tinha sido offendida em seu pudor immenso, Um pudor que rescende a perfumes e incenso. Oh! não! bradou convulsa; oh! não, não póde ser? Não póde haver piedade, eu quero-os ver soffrer! Que importa o coração? Enterre-se a bondade, É preciso um exemplo a toda a humanidade!

Soffram os bofetões, as rudes chibatadas, Os dias no porão, as algemas fechadas, Tenham do pão e agua o ephemero alimento, Tudo o que o meu poder impõe como tormento! Nem um gesto sequer de simples desagrado, Senão, se ouço gritar... verão o resultado! Esta torre aqui 'stá, conhece muita magua, Nas humidas prisões entra em cachões a agua; Quem não me obedecer ha de rolar no abysmo, Morrerá como um cão, de dor's e reumathismo. Findou a inquisição, diz se p'r'ahi a esmo. A torre 'inda cá está, e vem a dar no mesmo!

E com immensa dôr, os peitos palpitantes, Lagrimas o brotar de mães pobres velhinhas, Na branca lividez de esposas soluçantes, Nos choros infantis de pobres creancinhas, Levantando a cabeça em gargalhada f'rina, 'Inda mais uma vez venceu a Disciplina!

*

Ó velha Disciplina, ó serodia vestal De palmito e capella, os cabellos pintados, A virginal grinalda, á laia d'avental, O rosto convulsivo a desfazer-se em brados. Ó ginja delambida, ó velha sem razão, Vamos fazer autopsia ao vosso coração.

Sabeis o que é amar, ter mãe e ter irmãs, Velhas a sustentar, creanças a manter, Noivas todas paixão em suas almas sãs O futuro, uma vida, a aspiração d'um ser? Não o sabeis decerto, ó bellica matrona Austera Disciplina, ó velha solteirona.

Quem não se quiz curvar á vossa tyrannia Tem de gemer alli em funebre masmorra, Liberdade, Egualdade, isso é uma utopia É vosso o mundo inteiro, e quem protestar: morra! Ó como é triste e vil, o mundo, a humanidade Quando não quer subir ao solio da bondade. Onde tendes matrona, o coração sensivel Proprio d'um peito bom, que tem ao rigor asco Que dicta uma sentença ignobil e terrivel Com toda a placidez d'um cynico carrasco. Onde guardaes essa alma, escura, empedernida, Que incensando o rigor dispõe de muita vida?...

Remirando os galões, bonitos reluzentes, Onde a vaidade pôz scintilações a rôdos, Julgae-vos superior a todos os mais entes Nascidos como vós, mortaes como nós todos. E senhora feudal, ó velha Disciplina Cravaes a garra adunca, a tetrica assassina!

Lá vão tristes viver em lugubres prisões Em climas de matar os pobres marinheiros, Annos a soluçar na febre das paixões, As saudades dos seus, o amor dos companheiros. Condemnados, porquê? Por terem dignidade. O espirito do bem, da solidariedade!

E vós, velha matrona a rir como perdida Talvez inda acheis pouco o rude soffrimento; Onde é que vos guardaes ó velha delambida As mais simples noções do humano sentimento? Não póde haver autopsia ao vosso coração... Ó velha Disciplina, ó estupido chavão!

Emquanto o povo inteiro, os peitos soluçantes Esperava de vós um acto de justiça, De codigo na mão os olhos coruscantes Eivada de rancor entraveis já da liça E de bocca a espumar, terrivel colossal, Dictaveis a sentença onde imperava o mal.

Ó velha Disciplina, ó tola potestade, Ó funebre espantalho, ó velha rabujenta. Deixae essa «imposant» de grande magestade Que no seculo vinte é triste e não se aguenta.

A cova está aberta, entrae ó Disciplina, Cavou-a esse rigor: morrei ó assassina!

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK A VELHA DISCIPLINA: VERSOS ***

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