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Author: Augusto Casimiro

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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK A TENTAÇÃO DO MAR ***

A TENTAÇÃO DO MAR

POR AUGUSTO CASIMIRO

AUGUSTO CASIMIRO

A

TENTAÇÃO DO MAR

(Poezia recitada no sarau organizado pelo Batalhão Nacional Republicano de Coimbra, no Theatro Avenida em 21 de Agosto de 1911).

COIMBRA
Typ. Auxiliar d'Escritorio
1911

DE AUGUSTO CASIMIRO:

Para a Vida—1906.

A Victoria do Homem—1910.

A sair breve:

Versos de Amor.

A TENTAÇÃO DO MAR

Ponho-me ás vezes a escutar, atento,
A voz do sangue, a voz da minha raça...
E em meus olhos, então, saudosos, passa
Uma visão que é um deslumbramento!

Em horas de amargura e de anciedade,
Quando os meus braços tombam de fadiga,
—Ponho-me a ouvir aquela voz antiga
Religiosamente, com saudade...

É quando a noite cai silenciosa
E uma tristeza oculta chora em nós,
Que eu oiço aquela voz misteriosa
E me esqueço a falar com meus avós!

É quando alguém me diz que tudo é morto,
Que a Patria é morta e destruido o lar...
Quando vagueio palido e absorto,
Com amargura, e sem acreditar!

É quando eu vejo a terra abandonada,
O Passado esquecido... E escuto, além,
Na escuridão da noite envergonhada,
Insultarem a Patria, a propria Mãe...

Quando oiço o Mar ao longe, embravecido,
Bolsando ao ar os negros vagalhões,
No silencio profundo e estarecido,
A cantar as estrofes de Camões...

É quando, á luz amiga das estrelas,

O Mar saudoso e bom, o Mar profundo,
Julga, a sonhar, que embala caravelas
Que vam partir a devassar o Mundo!

Ficam-se os olhos humidos, inquietos
A interrogar em vão a noite escura...
E eu sinto em mim a tragica amargura
Dos destinos falhados, incompletos...

Mas, numa aurora esplendida e bemdita
É então, é então que em mim desperta
E no meu sangue novo ressuscita
O espirito da raça numa alérta!

E no meu sangue, em turbilhões, a ardêr,
Em orgulho e em fé e esforço altivo,
Todas as glorias do Passado vivo,
Todo o passado canta no meu sêr!...

... Sam primeiro os indómitos pastores,
Rudes, selvagens, livres, vagabundos,
Gigantescos, erguidos nos pendores
Das altas serras sob os ceus profundos!...

Vejo-os além de mim, longe, na bruma,
Pelas encostas barbaras da serra...
E olham receiosos a nevada espuma
Dos abraços do Mar cingindo a Terra...

Vejo-os cavando o solo... E o trigo cresce...
—Olha as searas de oiro, os fructos loiros!...
As enxadas ao Sol,—olhai,—parece
Que scintilam no ar como tesoiros...

Vejo-os porfim á beira-Mar, um dia,
Ouvindo as ondas cérulas cantar...
E já os tenta uma visão que erguia
Aos olhos deles a canção do Mar...

Vam-se á floresta... Brilham os machados...
E os troncos descem, mortos, sobre os rios...
Ei-los, na foz que se erguem, espantados,
Ei-los no ar, sam mastros de navios...

Depois,—ó dia grande!—eu vejo o Povo
da minha Terra á beira-mar chorando...
É o doirado romper dum tempo novo!
Sam as velas, ao longe, navegando!...

Pelo mar-fóra vão, pela aventura,
Levam sómente a graça do Senhor!
De azas abertas, pela noite escura,
Nem as detém o proprio Adamastor...

Vêde os mareantes, vêde os vagabundos,
Percorrendo as longinquas solidões...
Dam ao mundo espantado novos mundos!..
Dam ao Futuro os versos de Camões!

Abrem a Edade-nova! E o mundo inteiro
Viu-se maior, mais rico ao despertar,
Pelo esforço do Povo-marinheiro
Que atravessára e dominára o Mar...

Grita em meu sangue a fúlgida epopeia,
Céga-me a luz a arder de tantos sois,
Sóbe do Mar da Gloria a maré cheia,
O Sol aureóla as fronte dos herois!

E entam em mim renasce o velho culto,
O antigo amor, a vida vencedora...
E em meus olhos ardentes passa o vulto
Duma Patria a sorrir como uma aurora.

Pulsa irrequieto, a arder, meu sangue novo.
Rasga-se ao meu olhar um alto fim!...
E toda a alma heroica deste povo

Sinto-a sonhar e delirar em mim...

Ah! como é bela a Vida anciosa, inquieta,
Ah! como é grande e belo navegar!
—Sou marinheiro porque sou Poeta,
—Vinde comigo, vamos para o Mar!

Ah! como é bela a ancia desmedida
Que nos dilata o peito, a estremecer,
E nos exalta e nos dilata a vida,
E nos levanta e diviniza o ser!

Ó meus avós—heróis da Descoberta,
Quero ir convosco pelos mares fóra...
É a vossa alma que hoje em mim desperta
É o vosso coração que eu sinto agora!

Vamos todos p'ra o Mar!... Se acaso o Mundo
Estreito fôr p'ra tanta anciedade,
Vamos ás Índias que ha no céu profundo,
Vamos cruzar, correr a Imensidade!...

Numa divina ancia erguei os braços,
Livre já das algemas, para o Céu!
—Ha muitos soes brilhando nos espaços,—
Vamos roubá-los como Prometeu!...

Ha mundos novos pra arrancar á Treva,
Muitas venturas p'ra roubar á Dôr...
—Partamos todos numa ardente léva,
Erguendo ao alto pavilhões de Amôr!

No mar profundo e vasto do Futuro
Ha muitas Índias para descobrir...
Vamos abrir á luz o Oceano escuro,
Vamos tocar ás praias do Porvir!...

É embarcar e partir, com anciedade!
—Vamos buscar aos horisontes nóvos,
Índias-nóvas de Amor e liberdade,
E mais luz e justiça para os Póvos!...

É olhar o Passado!—Olhai-o vós
Com bons olhos de Amôr... E escutai!
—E toda a Historia que se escuta em nós,
—Vêde a maré de gloria que ahi vai!

Deitai barcos ao Mar! Eh!—marinheiros!
Que esperais vós, entam?—Vá, embarcar!...
—Nós somos inda os mesmos marinheiros,
—É este ainda o mesmo antigo Mar!

O mundo é sempre novo,—ó meus amigos!
E o Futuro é imenso e o Ideal...

—Embarquemos p'ra o Mar como os antigos,

—Que este é ainda o mesmo Portugal!

S. João do Campo—12 de Agosto, 1911.

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK A TENTAÇÃO DO MAR ***

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