

bocage\_improvisos.txt

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Title: Improvisos de Bocage  
Na Sua Mui Perigosa Enfermidade Dedicados a Seus Bons Amigos

Author: Manuel Maria Barbosa du Bocage

Release Date: October 20, 2007 [EBook #23109]

Language: Portuguese

Character set encoding: ISO-8859-1

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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 dér ver amimados  
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 espraçada,  
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],  
Pelos Deosas Irmãs 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 Antiquidade, 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 grão 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 orgãos 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 Paraiso.

[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 mérito; 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 lôbrego 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 trememente  
No sério ponto que illusões não sóffre.

[22] Se a locução, a fantasia, e o rhythmó 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 avêssô á justiça, e ao tom circunspecto do Discernimento.

+SONETO VIII.+

Não mais, ó Tejo meu, formoso, e brando,  
À márgem, fértil de gentis verdes,  
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 Zéfyros azues o affavel Bando.

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

Ei-lo em Fragas de horror, sem luz, sem nóрте;  
Sôa daqui, dalli piado Agoiro:  
Sois vós, Desterro etérno, 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, honrarei, Cantores)  
Versos, prantos lhe dai, que Elmano expira.

Deixai-lhe a cinza em paz, fataes Amores;  
E vós, do extincto 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 luminosas  
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 coasoantes.\_

+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 atónito 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, visível 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 ethérea, 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 Pessôa, 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 mellífero 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 occasião de honrar o meu  
insigne Compatriota.

+SONETO XIX.+

Genio mordaz, que o Mérito golpêa,  
Nadando em ondas de sulfúrea chamma,

Leva de rōjo a Musa que do Gama  
Cantou prodigios mil, de gloria chēa.

Sem luz o Triste, e sōfrego da alhēa,  
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 sōfrega Doença  
Que á vida quer sorver-me a fonte impura:

De eleitos Vegetaes sagaz mistura  
Não foi rívido estôrvio 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 Lumel!...  
Se hun Deos não fôra, que seria Elmano!  
Existe o Vate por que existe o Nume.

+FIM.+

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