

OLHÃO NA BOCA DO MUNDO

**RECOLHA DE EXCERTOS SOBRE A REVOLTA
OLHANENSE EM OBRAS ESTRANGEIRAS
(1823-1835)**

16 DE JUNHO DE 2009

INTRODUÇÃO

Esta recolha reúne excertos de oito obras estrangeiras publicadas num período compreendido entre 1823 e 1835. Apesar de nada acrescentarem ao que já sabe através de outras fontes bem mais informadas (como o manuscrito de João da Rosa), todas elas têm a particularidade de falarem, mais ou menos pormenorizadamente, e com mais ou menos erros, na revolta de Olhão contra os franceses. Através destes excertos ficamos com a (triste) impressão de que nesse período, a revolta dos pescadores de Olhao, Olhão, Olham ou Olhá (conforme os próprios textos) era mais reconhecida no estrangeiro do que hoje em Portugal... E o motivo não era para menos: afinal, tinha sido uma autêntica rebelião *popular* (no verdadeiro sentido do termo) contra umas tropas que, supostamente, eram das mais poderosas da Europa.

Cabe dar o devido destaque ao texto do General Foy, militar francês que esteve em Portugal nas três invasões. Trata-se de uma obra publicada postumamente, pela sua esposa, que recolheu e organizou as suas memórias. Segundo se depreende da sua leitura, Foy, apesar de derrotado nas três vezes que invadiu Portugal, deu o devido valor à revolta dos olhanenses, sobre os quais diz serem uns “pauvre pêcheurs, parmi les Algarves réputés les plus doux des Portugais”. Mas mais curioso ainda é o facto de Foy ser mais imparcial a relatar o que se passou em Olhão, apesar de cometer alguns erros, do que um militar farense como Sebastião Cabreira (só para se dar um exemplo). Razão tinha Foy para omitir este humilhante episódio (como o fez um colega seu de armas que também veio a Portugal, o general Thiébault, que deturpou e omitiu grande parte do que se passou no Algarve num livro que também escreveu), e no entanto não o fez... Resta acrescentar que um dos textos aqui inseridos (dos quais deixamos abaixo a lista, em ordem cronológica de publicação) é precisamente uma tradução inglesa da obra original de Foy, sendo que o texto italiano também parece ser um decalque desta mesma fonte.

1. John James MCGREGOR, *History of the French Revolution and of the wars resulting from that memorable event*, 1823.

2. SCHEPELER, *Geschichte der Revolution Spaniens und Portugal und besonders des daraus entstandenen Krieges*, 1826.

3. General FOY, *Histoire de la guerre de la péninsule sous Napoléon*, 1827.

4. Robert SOUTHEY, *History of the Peninsular War*, 1828.

5. General FOY, *History of the War in the Peninsula, under Napoleon*, 1829 [tradução inglesa].

6. Cesare De LAUGIER, *Fasti i vicende dei Popoli Italiani*, 1831.

7. José MUÑOZ MALDONADO, *Historia Política y Militar de la Guerra de la Independencia de España*, 1833.

8. Conde de TORENO, *Historia del Levantamiento, Guerra y Revolucion de España*, 1835.

HISTORY
OF THE
FRENCH REVOLUTION
AND OF
THE WARS
RESULTING FROM THAT MEMORABLE EVENT.
COMPREHENDING
THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY ANNALS OF EUROPE,
FROM THE
Meeting of the States General at Versailles, in 1789,
TO THE
BATTLE OF WATERLOO,
AND THE
SECOND SURRENDER OF PARIS.

COLLECTED FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES,

BY

JOHN JAMES M'GREGOR :

AND EMBELLISHED WITH PORTRAITS, MAPS, AND PLANS.

His artifices are infinite: his celerity is beyond belief: he is all at once encamped with an army in some place before even its march is known; and that army is commanded by a man devoured by the most insatiable ambition.

DE PAUW.

VOL. IX.

Dublin :

PRINTED BY CHRISTOPHER BENTHAM.

1823

The flame of insurrection now spread with the rapidity of lightning through the whole of the north of Portugal. In the little town of Olhao, as well as in many other places, an edict was posted up, by order of Junot, calling upon the Portuguese to take up arms against the Spanish insurgents. Jose Lopez de Sousa, a Portuguese colonel, tore it down, and, turning to the by-standers, exclaimed, "Ah, Portuguese, we no longer deserve that name, and we are now nothing!" The people exclaimed with one voice, that they were still Portuguese, and ready to lay down their lives for their religion, their prince, and their country. They instantly flew to the church, appointed Lopez their commander, and seized the cannon at the little fort of Ammona on the coast. General Morain, the French governor of Algarve, who resided at Faro, sent a detachment to quell the insurrection at Olhao, but they were repulsed with loss, and the inhabitants at Faro, headed by a countryman, taking advantage of their absence, made the remainder of the garrison, amounting to one hundred and seventy men, with their general, prisoners. The detachment sent against Olhao fled to Mertola, where there was a division of French destined to enter Spain and succour Dupont, but this plan was frustrated by the vigilance of the English corps under General Spencer, and in forty-eight hours, the whole province of Algarve had recovered its liberty, part of the provinces of Beira and Minho, rose in arms at the same time, and a very numerous force both of regular troops and peasantry was soon collected in the north of Portugal.

* In pp. 72-73.

G e s c h i c h t e
der
R e v o l u t i o n S p a n i e n s
und
P o r t u g a l s
und besonders
des daraus entstandenen Krieges

von

Königl. Preussischen Oberkenigk. Schepeler.

E r s t e r B a n d.

V o n 1807 bis Oktober 1808.

— Der Mensch wird erzogen, und daher ein Sklave der Gewohnheit; aber herausgerissen aus dieser, fängt er an, mehr oder weniger, nach eigener Vernunft zu handeln. — Eine Nation, noch mit etwas Kraft begabt, und herausgeschleudert durch große Erschütterungen aus dem alten Gange von Jahrhunderten, kann nur durch andere große, oder traurig vernichtende, dahin zurück sinken. — Revolution, oder Umwälzung, ist daher die Folge des Umschwangs des ewigen Zirkels, den die Zeit durch Begebenheiten bezeichuet, die mehr oder weniger Wiederholung voriger sind.

Berlin, Posen und Bromberg,
bei Ernst Siegfried Mittler.

1826.

Dieser Letztere erhielt die Befehung, bis auf nähere Nachrichten vom Anmarsch Dupont's in Alentejo zu verbleiben. Er besetzte demnach Estremoz und Evora, und verstärkte die Garnison von Elvas. — In Algarben kommandirte, während der Krankheit des Obersten Maurin, der Oberst Marassin, und die französischen Truppen hier selbst bestanden aus: der Legion des Südens, 1 Bataillon regulirter Infanterie, 1 Schwadron Dragoner und 1 Kompagnie Artillerie. Sie waren in Mertola, Tavira und Villa Real vertheilt; 200 Mann in Faro bewachten daselbst den kranken Maurin.

Ehe nun noch spanische Schiffe im Guadiana und englische Hülfsstruppen an der Küste Algarbens erschienen, brach daselbst die Revolution aus, und zwar durch eine Proklamation Junot's, die sie verhindern sollte. Nach der Entwaffnung der spanischen Truppen in Lissabon, welcher weiter unten Erwähnung geschieht, forderte er nämlich die Portugiesen auf, sich mit den Franzosen gegen die Spanier und Engländer zu vereinigen. Dies Proklam. in alle Provinzen geschickt, wurde auch in Olhao, einem Orte zwischen Tavira und Faro, an die Kirchenthür geschlagen. Am Frohnleichnamstage, den 16ten Juni, versammelte sich viel Volks vor der Kirche, und las mit Unwillen die Aufforderung, als der in Olhao zurückgezogene Oberst Joseph Lopes de Soruesca erschien. Dieser riß das Papier herunter und in Stücken, redete das Volk an, und setzte durch flammende Worte das portugiesische Blut so in Bewegung, daß in demselben Augenblicke der Aufstand beschlossen und Lopes zum General erwählt wurde. Man ging nun in die Kirche, hörte Messen, und proklamirte darauf die Königin und den Prinzen von Brasilien.

Der neue General bemächtigte sich zweier Kanonen auf

der Barre von Armond und des Dukors im Fort San Lorenzo, eine Meile von Olhao. Der Hauptmann Mestre suchte Waffen auf den kreuzenden englischen Schiffen, und da diese sie ihm nicht geben konnten, holte er einige von Ayamonte.

Die Franzosen in Faro, unter deren Befehl auch ein portugiesisches Artillerie-Regiment stand, suchten die Insurrektion durch portugiesische Offiziere zu dämpfen, oder doch wenigstens so viel Zeit zu gewinnen, um Verstärkung aus Villa Real und Tavira erhalten zu können. In letzterer Stadt schifften sich 80 Mann in drei Fischerböden nach Faro ein; allein Mestre brachte sie mit einer bewaffneten Barke nach Olhao auf. Die Gewehre dieser Gefangenen halfen wenig dem großen Waffensmangel ab, aber dessen ungeachtet griffen die Bauern noch denselben Tag 200 von Villa Real nach Faro marschirende Feinde an.

Nach Ankunft dieses Detaschements beschloß der französische Kommandant Garnier, die Insurgenten aus einander zu sprengen, und den 19ten rückten die Franzosen mit zwei Feldstücken und einer Haubitze, durch Portugiesen bedient, gegen die Bauernmacht in Olhao, deren Oberbefehl Lopes und Mestre dem Prior daselbst übergeben hatten, da sie, um Waffen und Hülfstruppen zu holen, nach Ayamonte eilten. Die Insurgenten traten in Unterhandlungen mit Garnier, als der Aufruhr auch in Faro ausbrach, wo nur eine kleine Abtheilung Franzosen geblieben war.

HISTOIRE
DE
LA GUERRE
DE LA PÉNINSULE

SOUS NAPOLEON,

suivie d'un

TABLEAU POLITIQUE ET MILITAIRE
DES PUISSANCES BELLIGÉRANTES

PAR

LE GÉNÉRAL FOY.

PUBLIÉE PAR

M^{ME} LA COMTESSE FOY.

. . . *Quæque ipse miserina vidi.*
VIRG.



PARIS
BAUDOUIN FRÈRES, ÉDITEURS,
RUE DE VAUGIRARD, N. 17.

*

1827

LES sentimens qui animaient la ville opulente d'Oporto et les rudes habitans de Tras-os-Montes, se déployaient en même temps et avec le même éclat, à l'autre extrémité du royaume, sur une côte habitée par de pauvres pêcheurs, parmi les Algarves réputés les plus doux des Portugais. Le 16 juin, les habitans du village d'Olhão étaient attroupés, lisant à la porte de l'église la proclamation que Junot avait faite après le désarmement des Espagnols. Un colonel, José Lopez de Souza, qui, avant l'occupation étrangère, commandait la petite place de Villa-Real de Santo-Antonio, arracha le placard. « Ne croyez pas à ces mensonges, mes » amis; les Français nous trompent, nous pillent, nous avilissent..... Nous ne sommes » plus des Portugais.... nous sommes indignes » de ce nom. » Ces paroles du colonel vont au cœur de ceux qui l'entendent, ils courraient aux armes s'il y avait des armes dans le village. José Lopez envoie à l'escadre anglaise en croisière sur la côte, demander des fusils,

et comme on ne peut pas lui en donner, il s'adresse à la Junte espagnole d'Ayamonte. Avant que les armes soient arrivées, les habitants d'Olhão montent sur leurs barques, se dirigent vers le fort d'Armona, enlèvent deux pièces de la batterie de côte et vont prendre des munitions dans le fort de Santo-Locenco, qui défend l'entrée de la barre de Faro. Ils aperçoivent dans le canal entre les îles et la côte, trois barques chargées de soldats français, qui allaient de Tavira à Faro. Ils vont à elles et les forçent d'amener.

Les Français n'avaient pas plus de neuf cents hommes dans les Algarves; outre quelques compagnies de la légion du Midi, à Alcoutim, le reste étant placé en réserve à Mertola, un bataillon du vingt-sixième, cinquante chasseurs et cinquante canonnières éparpillés à Alcoutim, Villal-Real de San-Antonio, Tavira et Faro. Le général Maurin commandant la province était dans cette dernière ville, malade au point de ne pouvoir être transporté. Maransin, colonel de la légion du Midi, exer-

çait le commandement actif. Il apprend à Villa-Real de San-Antonio, où il dirigeait la construction d'une batterie contre la place espagnole d'Ayamonte située vis-à-vis sur l'autre rive de la Guadiana, il apprend la révolte d'Olhão. Aussitôt il accourt à Faro avec deux cents Français et avec les canonniers portugais du régiment des Algarves, sur lesquels il comptait comme sur ses propres troupes. Les insurgés d'Olhão veulent s'opposer à son passage et sont renversés. Le corrégidor mor Goguet rassemble les magistrats de Faro, leur peint le déluge de calamités qui va pleuvoir sur leur pays. Ils sont saisis d'effroi, le capitaine d'artillerie Gaviel s'abouche avec les insurgés d'Olhão. Ils se voient avec effroi en campagne à portée des troupes françaises; ils sont d'ailleurs tous marins et pêcheurs; on leur permet, outre l'oubli du passé, de ne pas les inquiéter dans l'exercice de leur profession, et de les laisser chercher le thon jusque dans la haute mer. Lopez qui a déchiré la proclamation française et Sebastião-Martin Mestre qui a commandé l'in-

surrection embarquée, s'enfuient en Espagne.

CEPENDANT au bruit du tumulte d'Olhão sont descendus des montagnes une foule de paysans armés, qui veulent avoir part à la gloire de leurs compatriotes du bord de la mer. Les Français, obligés de tenir la campagne, n'ont dans Faro, avec leur général malade, qu'un petit nombre de soldats ouvriers attachés au dépôt de la légion du Midi et du 26^e régiment d'infanterie. Pendant que la ville est ainsi abandonnée à elle-même, un marchand, Bento Alvarez da Silva Canedo, monte au clocher de l'église des Carmes et sonne le tocsin. A ce signal, la population s'émeut. Le régiment d'artillerie portugais se joint à ses compatriotes et tourne ses armes contre ceux auxquels il avait obéi jusqu'alors. On livre aux Anglais le général malade et une centaine de Français qui sont dans la ville. Il n'y avait aucun motif raisonnable pour aventurer, à soixante lieues de Lisbonne, une poignée de Français menacés

par les Espagnols d'Ayamonte, et par les armemens anglais presque toujours en vue. Le corps réuni à Tavira alla, par Zambugal, rejoindre le gros de la légion du Midi à Mertola.

* In pp. 228-231.

HISTORY
OF THE
PENINSULAR WAR.

“ Unto thee
“ Let thine own times as an old story be.”
DONNE.

BY ROBERT SOUTHEY, ESQ. LL.D.
POET LAUREATE,
HONORARY MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SPANISH ACADEMY, OF THE
ROYAL SPANISH ACADEMY OF HISTORY, OF THE ROYAL
INSTITUTE OF THE NETHERLANDS, OF THE
CYMMRODORION, OF THE MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ETC.

A NEW EDITION.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE-STREET.

MDCCCXXVIII.

*Insurrec-
tion at Ol-
ham.*

When Loison, upon the first apprehension of danger, was sent to occupy Porto, General Avril was instructed, at the same time, to take possession of Estremoz and Evora, for the purpose of holding Alem-Tejo in subjection, and to give orders for securing Algarve. General Maurin commanded for the French in this kingdom, as it is designated, the smallest but richest province in Portugal: owing to his illness the command had devolved upon Col. Maransin, who received

instructions to occupy Mertola as well as Alcoutim, for guarding the Guadiana against the Spaniards; and to protect the coast from Faro, the greatest port in that province, to Villa Real, the frontier town; at the mouth of the river. Maransin, however, was not left at leisure to do this. Junot's proclamation, announcing the seizure of the Spanish troops, expressing his satisfaction with the Portugueze for their peaceable deportment, and promising to instruct them in the art of war, had been fixed upon the church door at Olham, a small fishing village about four miles from the city of Faro. The governor of Villa Real, Col. José Lopes de Sousa, happening to be in that village on the day of the Corpo de Deos, as he was going into the church stopped to see what the people were reading. The language of that proclamation proved how little Junot understood the character of the nation to which it was addressed; it wounded that high sense of national honour for which the Portugueze are remarkable, and Lopes, giving way to an honourable feeling of indignation, tore the paper down, and trampled upon it; then turning to the bystanders, exclaimed, "Ah, Portugueze, we no longer deserve that name . . . we are nothing now!" But they answered, that they were still Portugueze, and swore that they were ready to lay down their lives for their religion, their Prince, and their country. Though the impulse had thus been given, and the determination of the parties formed, they did not neglect the re-

CHAP.

X.

1808.

June.

CHAP.
X.

1808.
June.

ligious duties of the day, but entered the church peaceably, and attended mass. That done, they proclaimed the Queen and Prince Regent in the porch, and called upon Lopes to be their general. He without delay prepared an address to the people, and sent for two pieces of artillery and some powder from an island at the bar of Armona, and from Fort Lorenzo on the bar of Faro. These were secured before the French in Faro could hear of the projected insurrection. Two agents also went off to the English squadron; the means which were at the commandant's disposal had probably been all disposed of to the Spaniards; they proceeded therefore to Ayamonte, and performed their errand with such good speed, that on the following night they returned to Olham with 130 muskets from the Junta of that city.

News, iii.
270—275.

*Success of
the insur-
gents.*

The greater part of Maransin's force was stationed at Mertola, the rest was at Tavira and Villa Real, except 200 men at Faro. But before the news reached Faro a larger body of fishermen and peasantry had collected than 200 men could with any prudence have attacked. The French therefore sent for reinforcements from Villa Real and Tavira. From the latter place fourscore men embarked for Faro in three caics. The fishermen of Olham, confident in their skill upon the water, set out to intercept them under Captain Sebastiam Martins Mestre, one of those persons who had opened a communication with the English fleet and with Ayamonte. So little

were the French prepared for such an encounter, that they surrendered without resistance, and thus the insurgents obtained a seasonable supply of arms. They were not long allowed to enjoy their victory; about 200 French arrived from Villa Real to assist their countrymen at Faro, and they marched against Olham. The Portuguese met them half way, and disposed an ambuscade to receive them: their own eagerness prevented its success; but they behaved so well in a skirmish which ensued, that the enemy thought it not prudent to advance. This was the third day of the insurrection, and the people of Faro had as yet made no manifestation in its favour. The chamber of that city had, on the contrary, issued an edict against the insurgents, for what it denominated a riotous and scandalous attempt against the security of the nation, saying that their conduct would brand the Portuguese with the infamous stain of ingratitude, and warning them against the severe punishment which awaited them if they persisted in their frantic and desperate attempt. This edict was posted up in Olham; and it so evidently affected the people, in whom great excitement and fatigue had now produced proportionate exhaustion, that Lopes and Mestre, who had been hurt in the skirmish, thought it prudent to carry their prisoners to Spain, and go themselves to solicit aid from the Juntas at Ayamonte and at Seville.

CHAP.

X.

1808.

June.

The Chamber of Faro issue an edict against them.

Neves, iii. 275—281. Observador Portuguez, 332, 333.

Maransin, not aware of their departure, and anxious to lose no time in suppressing a spirit

Insurrection at Faro.

the consequences of which he had so much reason to dread, sent out three pieces of cannon to his detachment, and for want of French troops, a party of fifty Portugueze artillerymen, under Lieutenant Belchior Drago, an officer much more inclined to act against the enemies of his country than with them. Meantime the commander of the French, having learnt that the people of Olham were wavering, succeeded in obtaining a conference with some of them, and proposed terms. He promised them a free pardon, if they would return to their obedience; said that they should be protected in their fishery, and that even Lopes himself should be no otherwise punished than by forbidding him to appear in that place. The persons to whom these conditions were propounded listened to them willingly, and expressed an opinion that the people would probably assent, if the Portugueze authorities in Faro gave their sanction to the proposals. Some of the magistrates accordingly went to conclude this agreement with the Prior of Olham, a zealous Portugueze, to whom, in the absence of Lopes and Mestre, the insurgents looked as their proper counsellor and ruler. But at this moment, when the French by mere authority had nearly quelled the insurrection, the spell was broken, and they were made sensible that they had relied too confidently upon the terror of their name. A few Faro-men met in the shop of one Bento Alvares da Silva Canedo, and determined, while the French troops were absent, to raise the city against them.

* In pp. 88-93.

HISTORY
OF THE
WAR IN THE PENINSULA,
UNDER NAPOLEON;
TO WHICH IS PREFIXED
A VIEW OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY
STATE OF THE FOUR BELLIGERENT POWERS.
BY GENERAL FOY.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

SECOND EDITION.
IN TWO VOLUMES.
VOL. II.



LONDON :
TREUTTEL AND WÜRTZ, TREUTTEL, JUN. AND RICHTER,
30, SOHO SQUARE.
1829.

The feelings which animated the opulent city of Oporto, and the rude peasantry of *Tras-os-Montes*, broke forth, at the same time, and with the same ardency, at the opposite extremity of the kingdom, on a coast inhabited by poor fishermen, among the Algarvians, who are considered as the mildest of the Portuguese. On the 16th of June, the inhabitants of the village of *Olhão* had got together at the church door, and were reading the proclamation which Junot issued after his having disarmed the Spaniards. Colonel José Lopez de Souza, who, before the foreign invasion, was governor of the small fortress of *Villa Real de San Antonio*, tore down the placard. "Do not believe these falsehoods, my friends! the French deceive us, plunder us, degrade us. We are no longer Portuguese we are unworthy of the name!" This speech of the Colonel's went to the hearts of his hearers, and they would have run to arms, had there been any in the village. José Lopez set off to the English squadron, which was on the coast, and requested to be furnished with muskets; and as it was unable to supply them, he addressed himself to the Spanish Junta at *Ayamonte*. Before the arms arrived, the inhabitants of *Olhão* embarked in their boats, rowed towards the fort of *Armona*, carried off two cannons from the coast battery, and then went to procure ammunition from the fort of *Santo Lorenzo*, which defends the entrance of the bar of *Faro*. In the channel, between the isles and the coast, they saw three barks filled with French soldiers, who were going from *Tavira* to *Faro*. These they compelled to surrender.

The French had not more than nine hundred men in *Algarve*, besides some companies of the legion of the South at *Alcoutim*; the remainder were posted in reserve at *Mertola*, while a battalion of the twenty-sixth, fifty chasseurs, and fifty cannon-eers, were distributed at *Alcoutim*, *Villa Real de*

San Antonio, Tavira and Faro. General Maurin, who held the command in the province, was in the latter town, so ill as to be incapable of being removed. The active command was exercised by Colonel Maransin, of the legion of the South, who was at Villa Real de San Antonio, directing the construction of a battery against the Spanish town of Ayamonte, on the opposite bank of the Guadiana, when he learned the revolt of Olhão. He immediately hurried to Faro, with two hundred French troops, and with the Portuguese cannoneers of the regiment of Algarve, on whom he reckoned as on his own soldiers. The insurgents of Olhão endeavoured to stop his progress, but were soon dispersed. Goguet, the corregidor mor, assembled the magistrates of Faro, and represented to them the deluge of calamities which was about to burst on their country. They were seized with terror. In the meanwhile, Gaviel, a captain of artillery, held a parley with the insurgents of Olhão. They trembled to see themselves in the open field, within reach of the French ; they were, besides, all sailors and fishermen. A promise was made to them that the past should be forgotten, that they should not be disturbed in the exercise of their calling, and that they should be allowed to carry on the tunny fishery in the high seas. Lopez, who tore down the French proclamation, and Sebastiao-Martin Mestre, who had commanded the party in the boats, took flight to Spain.

The report of the rising at Olhão had, meantime, brought down from the mountains a multitude of armed peasants, anxious to participate in the glory of their fellow-countrymen on the coast. Obligated to keep the field, the French had in Faro only a working detachment of troops, attached to the depot of the legion of the South and of the twenty-sixth regiment of infantry. While the town was thus left to itself, one Bento Alvarez da Silva Canedo, a shopkeeper, mounted the belfry of the Carmelite

church, and rang the alarm-bell. At this signal the populace broke forth into revolt. The Portuguese regiment of artillery joined their countrymen, and turned their arms against those whom they had hitherto obeyed. The sick general, and a hundred Frenchmen who were in the town, were given up to the English. There was now no rational motive for risking, at the distance of sixty leagues from Lisbon, a handful of French, who were at once threatened by the Spaniards in Ayamonte, and by the English ships, which were almost always in sight. In consequence, the corps assembled at Tavira marched by Zambugal, to rejoin the main body of the legion of the South, at Mertola.

* In pp. 448-451.

FASTI E VICENDE

DEI POPOLI ITALIANI

DAL 1801. AL 1815.

O

MEMORIE

DI UN' UFFIZIALE PER SERVIRE

A L L A

STORIA MILITARE ITALIANA.

T O M O V.

Io non pretesi dir bene nè inappellabilmente. Cominciai, perch' altri poi proseguisse, migliorasse e compiesse.

FIRENZE

1831.

I sentimenti che animavano la ricca città di Oporto, e i rozzi abitanti di *Tras-os-Montes*, dispiegavansi contemporaneamente con lo stesso fracasso all'altra estremità del regno, fra gli *Algarvi*.

Il 16 giugno gli abitanti del villaggio di *Olhao* erano attruppati, leggendo alla porta della Chiesa il proclama che Junot aveva pubblicato dopo il disarmo degli Spagnuoli. Un colonnello, *Josè Lopez de Suza*, che prima dell'occupazione straniera comandava la piccola piazza di *Villa Real de' Santo Antonio*, strappò l'affisso. « Non credete, egli disse, « a queste menzogne, amici miei; i Francesi « c'ingannano, ci derubano, e ci avviliscono. . . Noi non siamo più Portoghesi . . . « siamo indegni di un tal nome. » Queste parole del colonnello scendono al cuore di coloro che le odono: dessi chiedono delle ar-

mi, spediscono a dimandarne alla crociera inglese sulla costa, la quale non avendo mezzi per appagarli, li dirige alla giunta Spagnuola d'*Agamonte*. Prima che le armi sieno giunte, gli abitanti di *Olhao* montano sulle loro barche, si dirigono verso il forte di *Armona*, rapiscono i due cannoni situati quivi in batteria, e vanno a provvedersi di munizioni nel forte di *Santo-Locenco*, che difende l'ingresso della bocca del Faro. Scorgono nel canale fra le isole e la costa, tre barche cariche di soldati Francesi, che andavano da *Tavira* a *Faro*, le corrono addosso e le costringono ad ammainare.

Junot non aveva negli Algarvi che la legione Piemontese, (o del mezzo giorno), alcune compagnie del 26. reggimento Francese. 50 cacciatori e 50 cannonieri sparpagliati ad *Alcoutim*, *Villa-Real de Sant-Antonio*, *Tavira* e *Faro*, in tutto 900 uomini. In *Mertola* stava acuartierato il numero maggiore. Queste truppe custodivano e difendevano il corso della *Guadiana*.

Minacciavano gl' insorgenti Spagnuoli dell' Andalusia e dell' Estremadura di traversare il detto fiume, e venire a porger la mano agli insorti Algarvi. Già alcune scialuppe cannoniere, venute da Cadice e penetrate nella *Guadiana*, mostratesi dinanzi a *Villa-Real* ed *Alcoutim*, sbarcato avevano in un punto libero

dalle truppe Francesi, due mila fucili e le munizioni proporzionate.

Il generale Maurin, comandante la provincia, trovavasi in *Faro* gravemente ammalato. Maransini, colonnello della Legione Piemontese, suppliva alle funzioni del generale impedito. Staccato a *Villa Real de Sant' Antonio* per dirigere la costruzione di una batteria, contro la piazza Spagnuola d' *Ayamonte*, situata alla sponda opposta della *Guadiana*, non appena gli è nota la rivolta d' *Olhao*, che corre a quella volta con 200 Piemontesi ed i cannonieri portoghesi delle *Algarvi*, sopra i quali contava come sopra le sue stesse truppe. I paesani d' *Olhao* oppostisi al suo passaggio sono rovesciati. Spaventati da quel disastro, e dalle sue conseguenze, impetrono e ottengono il perdono.

Frattanto alla voce del tumulto di *Olhao*, scendono dalle montagne una folla di paesani armati, che ardonno di partecipare alla gloria acquistata dai loro concittadini sulla sponda del mare. I Napoleonici obbligati a batter la campagna, non hanno in *Faro* per guardia del loro generale ammalato, che uno scarso numero di soldati operai, addetti al deposito della legione piemontese, e del 26 Reggimento di fanteria.

Mentre la città è in tal guisa abbandonata a sè stessa, sedici bastimenti da guerra

Inglesì e 40 da trasporto con 5 mila uomini della stessa nazione, appaiono all'imboccatura della *Guadiana*, e sbarcano alcuni battaglioni. Un mercante, Bento Alvarez da Silva Canedo, sale sul campanile della chiesa del Carmine e si pone a suonare a stormo. A questo segnale la popolazione si muove. Il reggimento d'artiglieria portoghese si unisce ai suoi compatriotti, e rivolge le armi contro quelli ai quali aveva fin'allora obbedito. Gl'inglesi avanzano, e s'impadroniscono del generale ammalato, e di circa duecento Francesi del 26, e 40 piemontesi della Legione. La guarnigione di *Alcoutim*, dopo una lunga e valorosa resistenza, subisce la medesima sorte. Non vi era alcun motivo plausibile per avventurare a 60 leghe da Lisbona, un così scarso numero di truppe, minacciate costantemente dagli Spagnuoli di *Ayamante*, e dagli armamenti Inglesi quasi sempre in vista. Il resto della Legione, riunito a *Tavira*, assalito per ogni lato da migliaia e migliaia di nemici, andò per *Zambugal* a rannodarsi al rimanente delle truppe Piemontesi a *Mertola*.

* In pp. 122-125.

HISTORIA

POLÍTICA Y MILITAR

DE LA GUERRA DE LA INDEPENDENCIA DE ESPAÑA

CONTRA

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

DESDE 1808 Á 1814,

ESCRITA SOBRE LOS DOCUMENTOS AUTÉNTICOS DEL GOBIERNO

POR

EL Dr. D. JOSÉ MUÑOZ MALDONADO,

DEL CONSEJO DE S. M., MINISTRO HONORARIO DEL REAL Y SUPREMO DE CASTILLA, SECRETARIO DEL REY N. S. CON EJERCICIO DE DECRETOS, CABALLERO PENSIONADO DE LA REAL Y DISTINGUIDA ORDEN ESPAÑOLA DE CARLOS III, EX-CATEDRÁTICO DE JURISPRUDENCIA CIVIL DE LA REAL UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALÁ DE HENARES, ABOGADO DE LOS REALES CONSEJOS, INDIVIDUO DE VARIOS ESTABLECIMIENTOS LITERARIOS, Y OFICIAL MAYOR DE LA SECRETARIA DE ESTADO Y DEL DESPACHO UNIVERSAL DE GRACIA Y JUSTICIA.

PUBLICADA DE ORDEN DEL REY N. S.

TOMO I.

MADRID: Abril de 1833.

Imprenta de D. José PALACIOS, *calle del Factor.*

El éxito de la campaña del Portugal no fue menos funesto á los franceses. Este Reino se hallaba en el estado de insurreccion que anteriormente hemos manifestado, y los valientes lusitanos auxiliados de los españoles de Cadiz que hicieron parecer delante de Villareal de Alcoutin en la embocadura del Guadiana algunas chalupas cañoneras, y de los de Estremadura que marcharon á su socorro, se levantaron del todo contra sus opresores. Poco tiempo despues, 16 navios de guerra ingleses y 40 transportes con 5.000 hombres de tropas de la misma nacion, aparecieron en la embocadura del Guadiana, desembarcaron algunos batallones en Faro é hicieron sublevar toda la parte oriental de los Algarbes. Animado por el Coronel Lopez de Sousa el pequeño pueblo de Olhao, proclamó al gobierno legítimo, tomando al propio tiempo medidas de defensa. El General Maurin envió desde Faro para someterle dos destacamentos de granaderos y cazadores, que fueron rechazados: el General frances reforzó estas tropas, quedándose con cortísima guarnicion en Faro: sus habitantes se aprovecharon de esta circunstancia, y se apoderaron del castillo haciendo prisionero al General y á los 150 franceses, que era toda su fuerza. Maurin se hallaba entonces enfermo en cama, y fue transportado como prisionero á bordo de un buque inglés.

El desembarco de estos en los Algarbes, y la insurreccion consiguiente de aquella provincia, fueron la señal para el levantamiento general de todo el reino. *

* In pp. 379-380

HISTORIA

DEL

Levantamiento, Guerra y Revolucion

DE ESPAÑA,

POR

EL CONDE DE TORENO.



TOMO I.



Madrid:

IMPRESA DE DON TOMAS JORDAN,

1835.

Levantamiento de los Algarbes.

El haber desarmado á los españoles de Lisboa motivó la insurreccion de los Algarbes, y por consecuencia la de todo el mediodia de Portugal. Gobernaba aquella provincia de parte de los franceses el general Maurin, á quien estando enfermo substituyó el coronel Maransin. Eran cortas las tropas que estaban á sus órdenes, y cuidadoso dicho gefe con los alborotos, habia salido para Villa-real en donde construia una batería que asegurase aquel punto contra los ataques de Ayamonte. Ocupado en guarecerse de un peligro, otro mas inmediato vino á distraerle y consternarle. Era el 16 de junio cuando Olhá, pequeño pueblo de pescadores á una legua de Faro se sublevó á la lectura de una proclama que habia publicado Junot con ocasion de haber desarmado á los españoles. Dió el coronel José Lopez de Sousa el primer grito contra los franceses, que fue repetido por toda la poblacion. Este alboroto estuvo á punto de apaciguarse; pero obligado Maransin que habia acudido al primer ruido á salir de Faro para combatir á los paisanos que levantados descendian de las montañas que parten término con el Alentejo, se sublevó á su vez dicha ciudad de Faro, formó una junta, se puso en comunicacion con los ingleses, y llevó á bordo de sus navíos al enfermo general Maurin y á los pocos franceses que estaban en su compañía.

