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Arquivo Virtual da Geração de Orpheu

BNP/E3, $14^3 - 13^r$

and a state If we examine carefully what sort of people and the Polaguese when first they defined themselves in history - that is to say in their for the period of their first dynasty, which " the one before the imperial dynasty - in shale find a people curinis by umarkable for their cultural tendencies, and, in so for as has an encurred, arging it almost always only defensionly and generally unfortunate on the few pression when they did otherwise. We find them sying with Prevence an their very books (cancinenis), of a peuliar forhum and mifinalist of inification ; and as find them - which is better Know - producing them romanes of chiraly, like amadi I four which one one of the cultures influences of and in The hiddle by . If anyone are then Voripund to make sandquie previctions concerning This little country, it will be natural to forecast a development on altered and literary lives, and of him that it angle and some Not I new Athen, if the pupper we right to camp his feer saticiantion to shat herhad arms calles the plus hant any "exactation ." If an curil's haven, the very pendia strating the law - at the antenne Tark and of humps - , if he A set payer The caltures teadency as early shown, if in take then two facts together with the " france on twend " is to ark it, latent in the later high to shale find has antical and historic constant to naturally enplan to prat Discoveries , then in their turn and

Transcrição

If we examine carefully what sort of people are the Portuguese when first they defined themselves in history - that is to say, in their f the period of their first dynasty, which was the one before the imperial dynasty - we shall find a people curiously remarkable for their cultural tendencies, and, is so far as war was concerned, waging it almost always only defensively, and generally unfortunate on the few uncharacteristic occasions when they did otherwise. We find them urging with Provence in their Song-books (Cancioneiros), of a peculiar freshness and originality of inspiration; and we find them - which is better known - producing those romances of chivalry, like Amadis of Gaul which were one of the cultural influences of and in the Middle Age. If anyone were then fit or disposed to make sociological predictions concerning this little country, it would be natural to forecast a development on cultural and literary lines, and of Lisbon that it might came some sort of new Athens, if the prophet were disposed to carry his pre vaticination to what Nostradamus calls "le plus haut auge d'exaltation."

If we consider, however, the very peculiar situation of the Land - at the extreme Southwest of Europe -, if we do not forget the cultural tendency so early shown, if we take these two facts together with the "pressure outwards" so to call it, latent in the latter Middle Age, we shall find how natural and historic conditions so naturally explain the great Discoveries; then, in their turn ex-

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2 plani the suprime. For, by propriet firm the which rendent mintalle to explorate and, it is natured that my it is mentle the post part I much a tak shad ple to a country a plant on that the thirte to yte lays des, and so difund this months exection and the "Il notice to them - for the vicence's are, and them on rifin & more , a mientif , + things a mental or altered phenomenon. The pulli at large is yes of him stapentos a proces y campe that, plant parting any that and y the to 1) Distance's parally and programing aron. Man are Sin " Taken men of the antward pratures that copies itself in', a with, thing and splenter than arte the desper quatures of which the atte is but the promet and the executes . If new hat least the the first bon y anity it hits, the and, along for spens friences, for a definite judge fin an inverse depart to their put an judget to the furt name of the Mitty - the cust of the much word - and to the jus of hit line across I such ascentio of his purpose a atri and fame. a forundants they a litomber. Buy two anturally les to river to Patro fle ministrally int empire The quint of the app has have not proved for the mile and to contract the the the

Transcrição

plain the Empire. For, by geographical given the fullness of time which rendered inevitable the exploration of the world, it is natural that way it is mental - that the greatest part of such a task should fall to a country people so placed as to be on the way threshold of the larger Seas, and so disposed that mental exertion was $\frac{n}{p}$ natural to them - for the discoveries are, in their origin and essence, a scientific, and therefore a mental or cultural phenomenon. The public at large is yet unaware even in Portugal of how stupendous a process of careful thought, of scientific expect of vigilant planning {...} was that not of what the discoveries gradually and progressively arose. Men are taken more by the outward greatness that expresses itself in, or with, daring and splendour than with the deeper greatness of which the other is but the product and the executor. Recent Portuguese investigation is tend essentially in one even greater consciousness of purpose and vigilance of Portugal being recognized in the life and achievement of Prince Henry the navigator. If men had learnt that the first lesson of sociological history, they would, when speaking of the great discoveries, give a separate judge in give an value inversely separate to their first own judgment, to the great name of Prince Henry the Prince - the creator of the modern world - and to the great of but lesser name of such executors of his purpose as Dias and Gama, or descendants thereof, as Colombus.

Being thus naturally led to discoveries, the Portuguese fell inevitably into empire. The spirit of the Age, but half science - if as much - for barbarism, and the natural consequence of which made use and conquest the great acts of greatness and of proves,



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the natural {...} by which discovery led leads <code>/led\</code> to conquest; the fatal shape by which natural conquest made personal gain possible, and the reflex <code>|notion|</code> by which the love of gain made conquest desirable - all this explains the Portuguese empire with an almost mathematical precision.



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