

## SONETTI

Mi disse: t'amo—io gli risposi: bada!  
poichè in amore io dò tutto quel ch'essa  
sacro ha la donna: sono umil, dimessa,  
io far ti lascerò quel che t'aggrada,

ma bada, io dissi, se non m'ami, bada  
se allor che al tuo piacere avrò commessa  
anche l'anima mia, contro me stessa  
tu metta un altro amor su la mia strada!

Poi fu un idillio, come ogni altro, breve,  
e noi ci amammo appassionatamente,  
e amor sognammo, ma fu un sogno breve,  
finchè un giorno lo vidi... Orrore! orrore!  
al vile io sogghignai felinamente  
e il mio stiletto gli ficcai nel cuore!

Non mi amare!—gli dissi—non mi amare!  
Succhio in amore peggio d'un vampiro  
ogni giovine forza: al limitare  
sei della vita appena, e già ti miro

morir d'affanno pel mio forte amare.  
Egli le disse: o mio dolce desiro,  
io son debole, è vero, e come il mare,  
tu l'hai pieno e magnifico il respiro,

ma voglio amarti, e ardentemente; il sangue  
succhia e la vita!—Un dì mentre calava  
l'ombra di notte, un giovinetto esangue

giaceva entro la bara, ed a lamento  
sciolta le traccie una ragazza dava  
selvaggiamente una canzone al vento.

VINC. FRENDO AZOPARDI

## Books and Reviews

## Muscat's General Guide of Malta and Gozo 1922-23

We are indebted to the firm of G. Muscat for a copy of the *General Guide of Malta and Gozo* for 1922-23, this being its 25th. year of publication.

It was a happy thought on the part of the Editor to dedicate the present issue to Sir Filippo Sceberras Kt., LL.D., M.D. as a mark of recognition on the part of the inhabitants of these Islands for all the great patriot has done in securing self-government to his native country.

The Guide, which cannot but prove of the greatest utility to the commercial and professional sections of the community, as well as to the public in general, is replete with information regarding the several Government Departments, the Church, the Navy, Army and Air Force, the Trade, Agriculture, and other callings of life, which has been collected with the greatest care with a view to rendering the publication as full and reliable as possible.

The most interesting part in the whole work is undoubtedly a synopsis of the Letters Patent establishing self-government in Malta. The composition of the Senate, the Legislative Assembly, the Nominated Council and Privy Council, as well as of the Joint Committee of the Privy Council, the attribution of each branch of the Legislature, the qualification of members and of electors, besides the reserved matters, are all given in a concise but very clear manner, testifying to the accuracy with which they have been collected and brought to the knowledge of those uninitiated in legal parlance.

The Guide contains a very elaborate article on *Weather Forecasting at Malta* from the facile pen of Professor Thos. Agius M.D. of the Malta University (which, by courtesy of the Editor, appears in another part of this issue of MELITA). The writer deals exhaustively with a subject which is little known locally but which is greatly useful to a large section of the public, direct reference being made to local conditions. The aim Professor Agius has ostensibly in view is to place the Maltese public on a level with people living on the continent, who have the facility of forecasting the weather by consulting their daily papers.