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978-1-108-08132-0 - Napoleon in Exile: Or, A Voice from St. Helena: The Opinions and Reflections of Napoleon on the Most Important Events of his Life and Government in his Own Words: Volume 2

Barry E. O'Meara

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Napoleon in Exile

These 'opinions and reflections of Napoleon ... in his own words' were published in two volumes in 1822 (the year after the ex-emperor's death). Little is known about the early life and medical training of their author, Barry O'Meara (1770?–1836), but he happened to be on H.M.S. *Bellerophon* when Napoleon came on board to surrender in August 1815. His medical experience and ability to speak Italian caused Bonaparte to ask him to act as his personal physician in his exile, and O'Meara obtained official permission to do so. However, relations between Napoleon's household and the governor of the island, Sir Hudson Lowe, deteriorated, and O'Meara was consequently required to leave in 1818. This fascinating and controversial work, which went into five editions, describes Napoleon's exile and records his opinions, but is also a polemic against Lowe's allegedly harsh treatment of his prisoner, later strongly denied by other witnesses.

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VOLUME 2

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Drawn by M^r Heffernan, from a Statue presented by the

EMPEROR NAPOLEON

to M^r O'Meara, July 25, 1818. Etch'd by T. Woolmoth.

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 HIS LATE SURGEON.

ἔγω δὲ ταῦθ' ἄπαντ' ἠπιστάμεν,
 Ἐκὼν ἐκὼν ἡμαρτον, ἐκ ἀνήσομαι
 Θνητοῖς δ' ἀρήγων, αὐτὸς εὐδόμεν πόνους
 Ὅυ μὴν τι ποναῖς γ' ὀδύμην τοιαῖσί με
 Κατισχυνεῖσθαι πρὸς πέτραις πεδαρσίοις
 Τυχόντ' ἐρήμιε τοῦδ' ἀγέιτονος πάγου.

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**J. M'Creery, Tooks Court,
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