



经典英语短篇小说

Classical English Short Stories

英汉对照

■主 编 南健翀



世界图书出版公司



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前言

毋庸置疑,在国际文化、经济、政治等日愈频繁的交流当中,英语已经成为被使用最为广泛的一种语言,在沟通不同民族、国家、文化以及谋求共同发展的过程中起着非常重要的作用;在中国,人们对外语学习,特别是对英语学习大量的时间、精力和资金投入是令人吃惊的,掌握英语甚至被看做是新时期人才所必备的条件之一。在这种国际、国内背景的交互作用之下,英语教育/英语培训俨然已经成为当今中国创造财富速度最为惊人的产业之一;而围绕英语教育和培训则涌现出了形形色色的“机构”、“方法”和“派别”。然而,这些针对“应试教育”、注重“短期效应”的各色“英语”存在着明显的误区,即,忽略了学习者对各类语言素材的大量摄入(input),只关注对语言本身(词法、句法、语法等)的学习。事实上,对任何一种语言来讲,语言本身,即词法、句法、语法等并不难学,而难以掌握的是“得体”(appropriate)、“达意”(communicative)、“准确”(accurate)的语言,这种得体、达意、准确的语言需要学习者对涉及对象国文化、历史、政治、宗教、哲学等领域的语言素材有大量的接触和摄入才可以达成。而文学(诗、词、歌、赋、戏剧、小说、散文等)恰恰能够给外语学习者提供丰富的文化、历史、政治、哲学背景的原始语言素材,使语言学习者更深层次地去领悟,了解对象国语言使用者的文化、历史、宗教、心理内涵,从而帮助学习者更加得体和准确地使用这种语言。在这种意义上,文学作品以其丰富的文化、历史、人文内涵给语言学习者营造了一种远离对象语使用人群和国度的真实语言情景,这便是文学所具有的“情景再造”或者“情景模拟”功能。长期的语言教学实践证明,文学作品的阅读对任何一种语言的学习来说,都是一个非常有效的途径和手段,对英语学习也不例外,这是我们编写这套英语文学系列丛书的基本出发点。

其次,21世纪是个文化更加趋于多元的世纪,了解不同于自己的

文化,才能增强语言学习者和使用者对文化差异的敏感性、宽容性以及处理文化差异的灵活性。反映对象国历史、文化、人文风貌的文学作品对语言学习者和使用者来说,是了解对象国人文历史风貌、民族心理、风俗习惯的最便捷、最有效、最可信、最全面的资源和途径。

再者,学习文学,广泛阅读优秀的文学作品,从中汲取营养,能够培养我们高洁的品行、博大的胸怀,帮助我们树立正确的是非观念,提升我们的修养和趣味,从事任何工作这些都是基本的素质和要求。

然而,对于一般的英语学习者而言,英语文学浩如烟海,语言的难度又非常大,学习起来谈何容易,就更谈不上领略其中所蕴含的美和独特的韵味。针对英语学习者的这些需要,我们组织了一批在高校专门从事英美语言文学教学和研究的专家和学者编写了《经典英语美文》、《经典英语诗歌》、《经典英语小说片段》、《经典英语朗诵读本》四本书。每本书的篇目均选自不同时期英美文学的代表作品;为了能够使读者对所选作者、作品有一个较为准确、全面的理解,每篇均由“作者简介”、“注释”、“译文”、“评析”四部分组成。作者简介涉及该作者在英、美文学历史上的地位、贡献、代表作品、作品的风格特色、流派等;注释部分主要对所选篇目中的语言难点、历史典故、文化/宗教背景、历史事件等进行简明扼要的注解;汉语译文大部分采用翻译名家的译文,也有一部分为编者自译;来自不同文化、教育、宗教、政治背景的读者对同样一部文学作品可能会有截然不同的解读和理解,而使用不同的文学理论,对同样一部文学作品也可能会得出迥异的结论。在评析部分,我们尽量采用长期以来“主流”的“定评”,当然,由于评析者自己的学养和喜好,评析部分也有极具特色的评价和受现代乃至后现代文学理论影响的痕迹。

从事外国文学研究和翻译的人都明白,对所谓“经典”文学作品的筛选从来都是见仁见智,没有严格的统一标准;而“注释”和“翻译”则是最能显现注释者和翻译者语言功力的工作。由于水平有限,不妥之处在所难免,恳请读者、同仁、专家指正,以利我们进一步修改。

出版说明

《经典英语短篇小说》和《经典英语演讲》是已经出版的经典系列丛书的延续。《经典英语美文》、《经典英语诗歌》、《经典英语小说片段》、《经典英语朗诵读本》出版之后,得到了广大读者的积极响应和好评。正是读者的厚爱让我们萌生了续编《经典英语短篇小说》和《经典英语演讲》的想法。这两本书从内容和文类上讲是对前四本书的有益补充。为了保持编写体例的统一,每篇也由“作者简介”、“注释”、“译文”、“评析”四部分组成。

敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2010年4月于西安外国语大学

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A Poor Man's Tale of a Patent^①

Charles Dickens (1812—1870)

I AM not used to writing for print. What working-man, that never labours less (some Mondays, and Christmas Time and Easter Time^② excepted) than twelve or fourteen hours a day, is? But I have been asked to put down, plain, what I have got to say; and so I take pen-and-ink, and do it to the best of my power, hoping defects will find excuse.

I was born nigh^③ London, but have worked in a shop at Birmingham (what you would call Manufactories, we call Shops), almost ever since I was out of my time. I served my apprenticeship at Deptford, nigh where I was born, and I am a smith by trade. My name is John. I have been called “Old John” ever since I was nineteen year of age, on account of not having much hair. I am fifty-six year of age at the present time, and I don’t find myself with more hair, nor yet with less, to signify, than at

① 19 世纪 30~70 年代,英国工业资本主义通过一系列社会改革法案,取代了商业金融资产阶级和土地贵族的地位,在经济上、政治上取得绝对优势。30 年代初,资本主义剥削更为残酷,广大劳动人民生活极端贫困,劳资矛盾已逐渐成为社会主要矛盾。30 年代末到 40 年代末,工人运动发展为全国性的宪章运动(Chartist Movement)。工人协会不断向国会提交请愿书来争取自己的合法权益。在宪章运动中产生了宪章运动文学,这是无产阶级文学在英国文学史以至世界文学史上第一次出现。这一时期批判现实主义文学产生了狄更斯、萨克雷、夏洛蒂·勃朗特和盖斯凯尔夫人等作家,马克思称他们为“出色的一派小说家”,并说他们揭示了许多“政治的和社会的真理”。他们的作品反映了工业资本主义发展后的英国社会生活。他们大都经历过宪章运动或受到这一运动的影响。个别作家触及当时社会中的劳资矛盾,以同情的态度描写劳动群众的贫困生活,但他们的作品带有浓厚的感伤色彩,从人道主义思想出发,提出改良的措施,来缓和阶级矛盾。他们对社会的批判主要反映了小资产阶级的要求,主要题材是小资产阶级个人奋斗的历史,正面人物几乎都是“小人物”,如小市民、小手工业者、小商人、破落贵族的子弟、贫苦的家庭教师等。

② Easter Time:复活节,西方宗教节日,为纪念耶稣基督在十字架受刑死后的复活。时间是在每年春分月圆后的第一个礼拜天。

③ nigh: (古英语)相当于“near (to)”,表示“接近(于),靠近”。

nineteen year of age aforesaid.

I have been married five and thirty year, come next April. I was married on All Fools' Day^①. Let them laugh that will. I won a good wife that day, and it was as sensible a day to me as ever I had.

We have had a matter of ten children, six whereof are living. My eldest son is engineer in the Italian steam-packet "Mezzo Giorno, plying between Marseilles^② and Naples^③, and calling at Genoa^④, Leghorn^⑤, and Civita Vecchia^⑥." He was a good workman. He invented a many useful little things that brought him in nothing. I have two sons doing well at Sydney, New South Wales single, when last heard from. One of my sons (James) went wild and for a soldier, where he was shot in India, living six weeks in hospital with a musket-ball lodged in his shoulder-blade, which he wrote with his own hand. He was the best looking. One of my two daughters (Mary) is comfortable in her circumstances, but water on the chest. The other (Charlotte), her husband run away from her in the basest manner, and she and her three children live with us. The youngest, six year old, has a turn for mechanics.

I am not a Chartist, and I never was. I don't mean to say but what I see a good many public points to complain of, still I don't think that's the way to set them right. If I did think so, I should be a Chartist. But I don't think so, and I am not a Chartist. I read the paper, and hear discussion, at what we call "a parlour", in Birmingham, and I know many good men and workmen who are Chartists. Note. Not Physical force.

It won't be took as boastful in me, if I make the remark (for I can't put down what I have got to say, without putting that down before going any further), that I have always been of an ingenious turn. I once got

① All Fools' Day: 万愚节(亦称“愚人节”),时间在每年的4月1日。在节日期间,人们可以不分男女老幼,彼此互开玩笑,互相愚弄欺骗以换得娱乐。

② Marseilles: 马赛,法国第二大城市;位于地中海沿岸,是法国最大的商业港口,也是地中海最大的商业港口。

③ Naples: 那不勒斯,意大利南部港口城市。

④ Genoa: 热那亚,地处意大利南部,是意大利最大的商港,也是地中海沿岸仅次于马赛的第二大港。

⑤ Leghorn: 莱格亨,又名“里窝那(Livorn)”,意大利北部主要海港之一。

⑥ Civita Vecchia: 奇维塔威基亚,意大利西部一个海港镇。



twenty pound by a screw, and it's in use now. I have been twenty year, off and on, completing an invention and perfecting it. I perfected of it, last Christmas Eve at ten o'clock at night. Me and my wife stood and let some tears fall over the Model, when it was done and I brought her in to take a look at it.

A friend of mine, by the name of William Butcher, is a Chartist. Moderate^①. He is a good speaker. He is very animated. I have often heard him deliver that what is, at every turn, in the way of us working-men, is, that too many places have been made, in the course of time, to provide for people that never ought to have been provided for; and that we have to obey forms and to pay fees to support those places when we shouldn't ought. "True," (delivers William Butcher), "all the public has to do this, but it falls heaviest on the working-man, because he has least to spare; and likewise because impediments shouldn't be put in his way, when he wants redress of wrong or furtherance of right." Note. I have wrote down those words from William Butcher's own mouth. W. B. delivering them fresh for the aforesaid purpose.

Now, to my Model again. There it was, perfected of, on Christmas Eve, gone nigh a year, at ten o'clock at night. All the money I could spare I had laid out upon the Model; and when times was bad, or my daughter Charlotte's children sickly, or both, it had stood still, months at a spell. I had pulled it to pieces, and made it over again with improvements, I don't know how often. There it stood, at last, a perfected Model as aforesaid.

William Butcher and me had a long talk, Christmas Day, respecting of the Model. William is very sensible. But sometimes cranky^②. William said, "What will you do with it, John?" I said, "Patent it." William said, "How patent it, John?" I said, "By taking out a Patent." William then delivered that the law of Patent was a cruel wrong. William said, "John, if you make your invention public, before you get a Patent, any one may rob you of the fruits of your hard work. You are put in a cleft stick, John. Either you must drive a bargain very much against yourself, by getting a party to come forward beforehand with the great expenses of

① Moderate:温和派

② cranky:有怪癖的,脾气古怪的

the Patent; or, you must be put about, from post to pillar, among so many parties, trying to make a better bargain for yourself, and showing your invention, that your invention will be took from you over your head." I said, "William Butcher, are you cranky? You are sometimes cranky." William said, "No, John, I tell you the truth;" which he then delivered more at length. I said to W. B. I would Patent the invention myself.

My wife's brother, George Bury of West Bromwich (his wife unfortunately took to drinking, made away with everything, and seventeen times committed to Birmingham Jail before happy release in every point of view), left my wife, his sister, when he died, a legacy of one hundred and twenty-eight pound ten, Bank of England Stocks. Me and my wife never broke into that money yet. Note. We might come to be old and past our work. We now agreed to Patent the invention. We said we would make a hole in it I mean in the aforesaid money and Patent the invention. William Butcher wrote me a letter to Thomas Joy, in London. T. J. is a carpenter, six foot four in height, and plays quoits^① well. He lives in Chelsea^②, London, by the church. I got leave from the shop, to be took on again when I come back. I am a good workman. Not a Teetotaller^③; but never drunk. When the Christmas holidays were over, I went up to London by the Parliamentary Train^④, and hired a lodging for a week with Thomas Joy. He is married. He has one son gone to sea.

Thomas Joy delivered (from a book he had) that the first step to be took, in Patenting the invention, was to prepare a petition unto Queen Victoria^⑤. William Butcher had delivered similar, and drawn it up. Note. William is a ready writer. A declaration before a Master in Chancery^⑥ was to be added to it. That, we likewise drew up. After a

① quoits:套圈游戏,一种需要高度准确性的室外游戏。投圈者要将一个金属圈投向标杆。从14世纪中叶以来,这种游戏一直盛行于英国。投圈后来发展成为掷马蹄铁。

② Chelsea:切尔西,伦敦西南部一住宅区,为艺术家和作家的聚居地。

③ Teetotaller:禁酒主义者

④ Parliamentary Train:(英国)工人减价列车;廉价列车。

⑤ Queen Victoria:维多利亚女王,英国历史上在位时间最长的君主。她在位的64年期间(1837—1901年),是英国最强盛的所谓“日不落帝国”时期。

⑥ Master in Chancery:法庭推事,即法官。



deal of trouble I found out a Master, in Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, nigh Temple Bar, where I made the declaration, and paid eighteen-pence. I was told to take the declaration and petition to the Home Office^①, in Whitehall, where I left it to be signed by the Home Secretary^②(after I had found the office out), and where I paid two pound, two, and sixpence. In six days he signed it, and I was told to take it to the Attorney General^③'s chambers, and leave it there for a report. I did so, and paid four pound, four. Note. Nobody all through, ever thankful for their money, but all uncivil.

My lodging at Thomas Joy's was now hired for another week, whereof five days were gone. The Attorney-General made what they called a Report-of-course^④(my invention being, as William Butcher had delivered before starting, unopposed), and I was sent back with it to the Home Office. They made a Copy of it, which was called a Warrant. For this warrant, I paid seven pound, thirteen, and six. It was sent to the Queen, to sign. The Queen sent it back, signed. The Home Secretary signed it again. The gentleman threwed it at me when I called, and said, "Now take it to the Patent Office^⑤ in Lincoln's Inn." I was then in my third week at Thomas Joy's living very sparing, on account of fees. I found myself losing heart.

At the Patent Office in Lincoln's Inn, they made "a draft of the Queen's bill," of my invention, and a "docket^⑥ of the bill". I paid five pound, ten, and six, for this. They "engrossed two copies of the bill; one for the Signet Office^⑦, and one for the Privy-Seal Office^⑧." I paid one pound, seven, and six, for this. Stamp duty^⑨ over and above, three pound. The Engrossing Clerk of the same office engrossed the Queen's

① Home Office: 内务部

② Home Secretary: 内务大臣

③ Attorney General: 首席检察官; 首席律师

④ Report-of-course: 例行报告

⑤ Patent Office: 专利局

⑥ docket: 备忘录; 一览表

⑦ Signet Office: 印章局

⑧ Privy-Seal Office: 掌玺大臣衙门

⑨ Stamp duty: 印花稅

bill for signature. I paid him one pound, one. Stamp-duty, again, one pound, ten. I was next to take the Queen's bill to the Attorney-General again, and get it signed again. I took it, and paid five pound more. I fetched it away, and took it to the Home Secretary again. He sent it to the Queen again. She signed it again. I paid seven pound, thirteen, and six, more, for this. I had been over a month at Thomas Joy's. I was quite wore out, patience and pocket.

Thomas Joy delivered all this, as it went on, to William Butcher. William Butcher delivered it again to three Birmingham Parlours, from which it got to all the other Parlours, and was took, as I have been told since, right through all the shops in the North of England. Note. William Butcher delivered, at his Parlour, in a speech, that it was a Patent way of making Chartists.

But I hadn't nigh done yet. The Queen's bill was to be took to the Signet Office in Somerset House, Strand—where the stamp shop is. The Clerk of the Signet made “a Signet bill for the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal”. I paid him four pound, seven. The Clerk of the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal made “a Privy-Seal bill for the Lord Chancellor”. I paid him, four pound, two. The Privy-Seal bill was handed over to the Clerk of the Patents, who engrossed the aforesaid. I paid him five pound, seventeen, and eight; at the same time, I paid Stamp-duty for the Patent, in one lump^①, thirty pound. I next paid for “boxes for the Patent”, nine and sixpence. Note. Thomas Joy would have made the same at a profit for eighteen-pence. I next paid “fees to the Deputy, the Lord Chancellor's Purse-bearer”, two pound, two. I next paid “fees to the Clerk of the Hanaper^②”, seven pound, thirteen. I next paid “fees to the Deputy Clerk of the Hanaper”, ten shillings. I next paid, to the Lord Chancellor again, one pound, eleven, and six. Last of all, I paid “fees to the Deputy Sealer, and Deputy Chaff-wax”, ten shillings and sixpence. I had lodged at Thomas Joy's over six weeks, and the unopposed Patent for my invention, for England only, had cost me ninety-six pound, seven, and eight pence. If I had taken it out for the

① in one lump: 一次全部地

② Hanaper: 文件筐

United Kingdom, it would have cost me more than three hundred pound. Now, teaching had not come up but very limited when I was young. So much the worse for me you'll say. I say the same. William Butcher is twenty year younger than me. He knows a hundred year more. If William Butcher had wanted to Patent an invention, he might have been sharper than myself when hustled backwards and forwards among all those offices, though I doubt if so patient. Note. William being sometimes cranky, and consider porters, messengers, and clerks.

Thereby I say nothing of my being tired of my life, while I was Patenting my invention. But I put this: Is it reasonable to make a man feel as if, in inventing an ingenious improvement meant to do good, he had done something wrong? How else can a man feel, when he is met by such difficulties at every turn? All inventors taking out a Patent MUST feel so. And look at the expense. How hard on me, and how hard on the country if there's any merit in me (and my invention is took up now, I am thankful to say, and doing well), to put me to all that expense before I can move a finger! Make the addition yourself, and it'll come to ninety-six pound, seven, and eight pence. No more, and no less.

What can I say against William Butcher, about places^①? Look at the Home Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Patent Office, the Engrossing Clerk, the Lord Chancellor, the Privy Seal, the Clerk of the Patents, the Lord Chancellor's Purse-bearer, the Clerk of the Hanaper, the Deputy Clerk of the Hanaper, the Deputy Sealer, and the Deputy Chaff-wax. No man in England could get a Patent for an Indian-rubber band, or an iron-hoop, without feeing all of them. Some of them, over and over again. I went through thirty-five stages. I began with the Queen upon the Throne. I ended with the Deputy Chaff-wax. Note. I should like to see the Deputy Chaff-wax. Is it a man, or what is it?

What I had to tell, I have told. I have wrote it down. I hope it's plain. Not so much in the handwriting (though nothing to boast of there), as in the sense of it. I will now conclude with Thomas Joy. Thomas said to me, when we parted, "John, if the laws of this country were as honest as they ought to be, you would have come to London registered an exact description and drawing of your invention paid half-a-crown^② or so for doing of it and therein and thereby have got your

① places: 这里指“众多的官职”。

② half-a-crown: 半个 5 先令的硬币。(“crown”指英国货币中价值 5 先令的硬币。)

Patent.”

My opinion is the same as Thomas Joy. Further. In William Butcher's delivering “that the whole gang of Hanapers and Chaff-waxes must be done away with, and that England has been chaffed and waxed sufficient,” I agree.

作者简介

查尔斯·狄更斯(Charles Dickens, 1812—1870)是19世纪伟大的批判现实主义作家。因父亲负债而入狱,狄更斯从小便在皮鞋厂当学徒以养活家庭。由于贫穷,他没有上过几年学,全靠刻苦自学和艰辛劳动最终成为闻名世界的作家。马克思曾赞叹他为“杰出的小说家”。

狄更斯生活在英国由封建社会向资本主义社会过渡的时期。此时的英国底层民众一方面受到封建压迫,另一方面还承受着新生资本家们的剥削,生活在水深火热之中。贫贱的家庭背景和在皮鞋厂度过的悲惨的童年时光让狄更斯对深受压迫的英国底层民众的生活感同身受,因而他的作品大都是以抨击资本主义制度、揭露各种社会丑恶的现象为目的。

狄更斯一生共创作了14部长篇小说,部部都是经典。其中最广为人知的是《雾都孤儿》(*Oliver Twist*, 1837—1839)、《艰难时世》(*Hard Times*, 1854)和《大卫·科波菲尔》(*David Copperfield*, 1849—1850)。他以生动、幽默的笔触暴露当时英国现实生活的黑暗,向世人揭示资产阶级的虚伪与贪婪。其他作品有《匹克威克外传》(*The Pickwick Papers*, 1836)、《老古玩店》(*The Old Curiosity Shop*, 1841)、《董贝父子》(*Dombey and Son*, 1848)、《双城记》(*A Tale of Two Cities*, 1859)和《远大前程》(*Great Expectations*, 1861),等等。

译文

穷人的专利权

我这个人向来是不习惯写什么东西发表的。一个工人,每天(除了有几个星期一、圣诞节以及复活节之外)干活从来不少于12或14小时,情况可想而知!既然是要我直截了当地把想说的话写下来,那我也就只好拿起纸笔尽力而为了,欠缺不妥之处还希望能得到谅解。

我出生在伦敦附近,不过,自从满师之后就在伯明翰一家工场做工(你



们叫工厂，我们这儿叫工场）。我在靠近我出生地德特福德当学徒，学的是打铁的行当。我的名字叫约翰。打19岁那年起，人家看见我没几根头发，就一直管我叫“老约翰”了。现时我已经56岁了，头发并不比上面提到的19岁的时候多，可也不比那时候少，因此，这方面也就没有什么新的情况好说。

下一个四月是我结婚35周年。我是万愚节那天结婚的。让人家去笑话我的这个胜利品好了。我就是在那天赢了好老婆的，那一天可真是我平生最有意思的日子哩。

我们总共生过10个孩子，活下来6个。我的大儿子在一条意大利客轮上当机师，这条船的招牌叫做“曼佐·纪奥诺号”，往返马赛、那不勒斯，停靠热那亚、莱格亨以及西维太·范切埃。他是个好工匠，发明过许多很派用场的小玩意儿，不过，这些发明却从来没有给过他一丁点好处。我还有两个儿子，一个在悉尼，一个在新威尔士，全都干得挺不错，上回来信的时候都还没有成家呢。我另外一个儿子（詹姆士）想法有点疯疯癫癫，居然跑到印度去当兵，就在那里挨了颗枪子儿，肩胛骨里嵌着粒子弹头，在医院里躺了6个星期，这还是他自己写信告诉我的。几个儿子当中要数他长得顶俊。我有个女儿（玛丽）日子过得蛮舒服，可就是得了个胸积水的毛病。另一个女儿（夏洛蒂），让她丈夫给遗弃了，那事儿可真卑鄙到了极点，她带了3个孩子跟我们一起过。我最小的一个孩子，这会儿才6岁，在机械方面已经很有点爱好了。

我不是个宪章派，从来就不是。我确实看到有许许多多的公共弊病引起大家的怨恨，不过我并不认为宪章派的主张是纠正弊端的什么好办法。我要是那么认为的话，那可就真的成了宪章派了。可我并不那么认为，所以我也就不成其成为一名宪章派。我阅读报纸，也上伯明翰我们称为“会堂”的地方去听听讨论，所以，我认得宪章派的许多人。不过，各位请注意，他们可全都不主张凭蛮力解决问题。

要是我说自己向来有创造发明的癖好，这话也不好算是自吹自擂（我这个人要是不当即把想到要说的话统统记下来，就没有办法把整个事情写完全）。我发明过一种螺丝，挣了20镑钱，这笔钱我这会儿还在用。整整有20年工夫，我都在断断续续地搞一样发明，边搞边改进。上一个圣诞节前夜10点钟，我终于完成了这个发明。完成之后，我喊我妻子也进来看一看。这时候，我跟我妻子站在机器模型旁边，眼泪簌簌地落到它身上。

我的一位名叫威廉·布彻的朋友是个宪章派，属于温和派。他是位挺棒的演说家，谈锋相当雄健。我经常听他说，咱们工人之所以到处碰壁，就是因为要奉养长期以来形成的那些多如牛毛的衙门，就是因为咱们得遵从官场的那些敝习陋规，还得缴付一些根本就不应当缴付的费用去养活那些