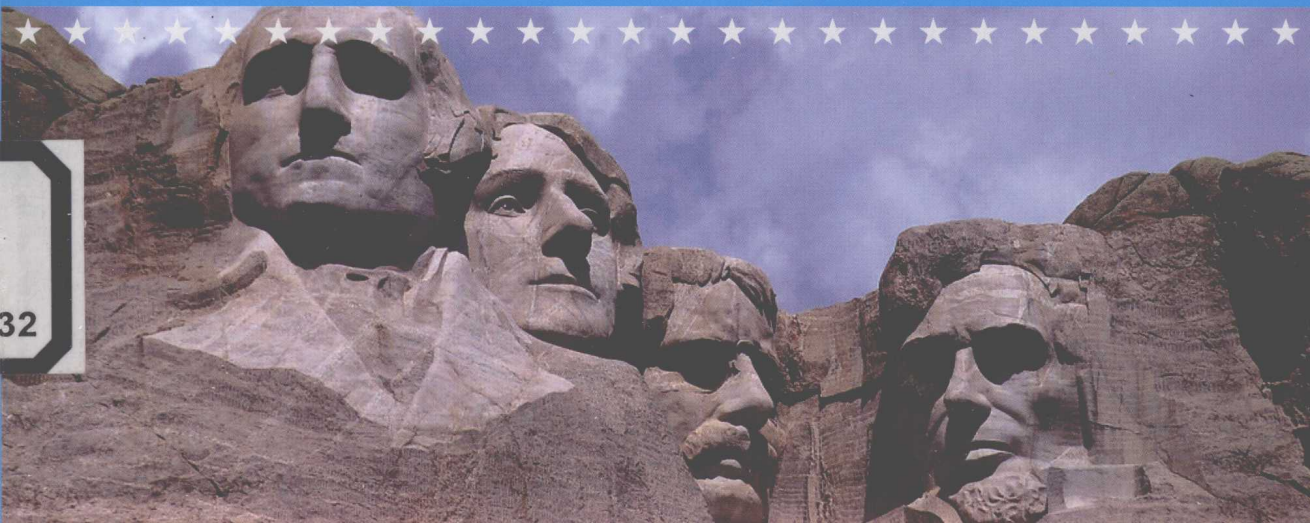


Glorious Life: American Famous People



图书在版编目(CIP)数据

潇洒人生:美国人物故事(含 MP3 光盘)/陈立凯主编.
—上海:华东理工大学出版社,2010.1

ISBN 978-7-5628-2582-1

I. 潇... II. 陈... III. ①英语-汉语-对照读物②名人-生平事迹-美国 IV. H319.4;K
中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 116606 号

潇洒人生:美国人物故事(含 MP3 光盘)

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责任编辑 / 李清奇

责任校对 / 李 晔

封面设计 / 陆丽君

出版发行 / 华东理工大学出版社

地 址:上海市梅陇路 130 号,200237

电 话:(021)64250306(营销部)

(021)64252735(编辑室)

传 真:(021)64252707

网 址:press.ecust.edu.cn

印 刷 / 上海崇明裕安印刷厂

开 本 / 710mm×1000mm 1/16

印 张 / 11.5

字 数 / 257 千字

版 次 / 2010 年 1 月第 1 版

印 次 / 2010 年 1 月第 1 次

印 数 / 1—5000 册

书 号 / ISBN 978-7-5628-2582-1/H·844

定 价 / 26.00 元(含 MP3 光盘)

(本书如有印装质量问题,请到出版社营销部调换。)



前 言

这套《认识美国:双语故事阅读系列》共有四册,第一册是《回首往事:美国历史故事(1492—1865)(含 MP3 光盘)》;第二册是《回首往事:美国历史故事(1866—present)(含 MP3 光盘)》;第三册是《风情大地:美国各地故事(含 MP3 光盘)》,第四册是《潇洒人生:美国人物故事(含 MP3 光盘)》。它们向读者介绍了美国历史、社会、文化、工业、农业、少数民族、历史人物等的情况。这些故事时间跨度大、描述范围广、内容丰富、语言简练、生动易懂,是我们学习当代美国英语并通过学习和阅读这些故事进一步认识美国、了解美国的有益读物。

书中对英文原文部分生词短语及人物事件加了中文注释,并配以中文译文,以帮助读者更好地理解原文。中文译文尽量做到流畅、通顺,忠实于原文。

本书中的小故事讲述的是美国的一些领导人、政治家、社会活动家、科学家和演艺界及体育界人士等的故事。如美国历史上第一对父子总统是谁?人们为什么把威廉·亨利·哈里森总统叫做“老蒂珀卡努”?哪位总统在 19 世纪时大规模地扩展了美国的疆土?范布伦总统是如何得到“小魔术师”和“肯德胡克红狐狸”这种绰号的呢?詹姆斯·门罗总统的“和睦时代”是怎样的一个时代?“睡得早、起得早,聪明、富裕、身体好”是哪本书里的格言?第一位担任美国最高法院大法官的非裔美国人是谁?马丁·路德·金到华盛顿特区和林顿·约翰逊总统讨论了什么问题?海伦·凯勒的故事为什么那样感人?黑人科学家乔治·华盛顿·卡弗通过什么方式帮助农民度过了难关?还有许多其他鲜为人知的趣闻,读者读完本书就会知道了。

本套丛书每册都配有 MP3,由专业美语播音人士录音,音质纯正。读者可以跟随录音阅读,也可以作为听力和复述材料,一边听录音、一边复述。相信读者和广大英语学习者读完和学完本套丛书之后,不但可以学会用英语讲述美国的故事,还将大幅提高英语综合能力。

本套丛书的许多故事都有美国总统以及美国各州的内容。考虑到多数读者和英语学习者对于一些美国总统名字及大部分州名和城市名称不是很熟悉,因此在每册书的后面附有两个英汉对照表:一个是美国总统的姓名以及每位总统的出生日期及任职年限;另一个是美国各州及重要城市的名称。读者可以随时查阅。

囿于作者水平,本套丛书在编选过程中难免出现各种谬误,欢迎读者批评指正,谢谢!

编 者

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► Part 1

Presidents

总统篇

1



John Adams

约翰·亚当斯

Born on October 30 (October 19, **Old Style**¹), 1735, in **Braintree** (now **Quincy**), **Massachusetts**², John Adams worked as a teacher and lawyer before dedicating himself to a life of patriotism and politics. He was America's second president and lived to be the oldest. He was 90 years old when he died on July 4, 1826, in Braintree, Massachusetts.

Adams was well known for his extreme political independence, brilliant mind and passionate patriotism. He was a leader in **the Continental Congress**³ and an important diplomatic figure, before becoming America's first vice president. Adams then served one term as president but lost the election of 1800 to Thomas Jefferson, his longtime friend and political rival.

Also dear to John Adams was his wife and partner of 54 years, Abigail Adams. She was a gifted intellectual who **corresponded with**⁴ her husband during his long absences from home, **chronicling**⁵ many important events of America's founding. John and Abigail Adams were the parents of another U.S. President, John Quincy Adams.

Do you know how many other fathers and their sons have both been president?



Notes ▶

1. Old Style “老式日历”，即“儒略历”（古罗马统帅恺撒制订的历法），当时欧洲普遍使用的历法。
2. Braintree (now Quincy), Massachusetts 昆西市，在马萨诸塞州中部。
3. the Continental Congress 大陆会议，北美 13 个殖民地的代表会议，是美国独立战争的领导机构。1774 年 9 月在费城召开第一次大陆会议。1775 年 5 月召开第二次大陆会议，决定组建大陆军并任命华盛顿为大陆军总司令。1776 年大陆会议通过了《独立宣言》。
4. correspond with （通常在一段时期内）通过信件和……交流
5. chronicle /'krɒnɪkl/ v. 按年代顺序记录，记载



参考译文▶

约翰·亚当斯于1735年10月30日(旧式日历的10月18日)出生在马萨诸塞的布伦特里(现在叫昆西市)。在投身于爱国事业和政治活动之前,亚当斯曾做过教师和律师。他是美国的第二任总统,也是寿命最长的总统。1826年7月4日,约翰·亚当斯在马萨诸塞布伦特里的家中去世,当时已经90岁。

亚当斯因极度政治独立的观点、聪慧的头脑和强烈的爱国精神而知名。他在担任美国第一任副总统职务之前是大陆会议的一名领导人和一名重要的外交人员。后来,亚当斯担任了一届总统,但在1800年的大选中输给了他长期的朋友和政治对手托马斯·杰斐逊。

令亚当斯感到珍贵的还有和他在一起共同度过54年生活的妻子和伙伴阿比盖尔·亚当斯。阿比盖尔是个很有才华的知识分子。在亚当斯长期离家期间,阿比盖尔和丈夫通过信件互相交流,记录下了美国建国过程中的许多重要事件。另一位美国总统约翰·昆西·亚当斯则是约翰·亚当斯夫妇的儿子。

你还知道哪些父子都是总统的吗?



“Remember the Ladies”, Abigail Adams, His Better Half

“请记住妇女们吧”，阿比盖尔·亚当斯，他的另一半

Abigail Smith was born in 1744. Her mother's relatives included the powerful Quincy family. Her father was a highly respected Congregational minister.

Abigail was very intelligent. In her day, girls received little formal education, but she was **scholarly**¹ and well-read. She was a perfect match for the equally intellectual John Adams. Abigail was almost 20 years old when she and John married in 1764, and they remained together for 54 years, until her death in 1818. They had a close partnership, and he often sought advice from her before anyone else, whether it involved the Continental Congress or the presidency. What was the most famous thing about which she is known to have **counseled**² her husband?

Abigail Adams advocated greater political rights for women, especially regarding divorce and property ownership. Abigail's 1776 “Remember the Ladies” letter asked her husband and the other **Founding Fathers**³ to do just that when laying the framework for a new nation. This was one piece of his wife's advice that John Adams didn't follow. Do you know why Abigail Adams wrote the “Remember the Ladies” letter to her husband instead of telling him in person?

John Adams spent many weeks, months, and even years away from Abigail and his growing family in Braintree, Massachusetts, first as a lawyer and then as a member of the Continental Congress and as a diplomat abroad. John and Abigail exchanged frequent letters, though, which was the routine form of long distance communication before the telephone (or e-mail!). John considered Abigail his “reporter”, and they wrote about issues ranging from everyday life to the weighty work facing John Adams and the other Founding Fathers. Abigail's more than 2,000 letters chronicle her life raising children alone and managing a farm during the Revolutionary War, but she also left behind an important account of the historical events surrounding America's birth as a nation. She was very knowledgeable about history, and was a gifted observer and writer.

Abigail eventually joined her husband abroad during his diplomatic service, and as a result returned to the United States in 1788 as a valuable friend and entertaining consultant to first lady **Martha Washington**⁴ during John Adams's terms as Washington's

vice president. During Adams's own presidency, from 1797 to 1801, he and Abigail oversaw the government's move from Philadelphia to Washington and were the first presidential family to occupy the White House. Although she spent only three months there, Abigail hosted a number of formal social engagements. After Adams's term as president ended, he and Abigail spent 17 years at their new house in Braintree, finally getting the time together that they had long desired.



Notes ▶

1. scholarly *adj.* 博学的
2. counsel *vt.* 劝告, 忠告
3. Founding Fathers 指美国的开国先辈们
4. Martha /'mɑ:θə/ Washington 玛莎·华盛顿 (1731—1892), 美国第一位总统乔治·华盛顿的夫人。



参考译文 ▶

阿比盖尔·史密斯出生于 1744 年。她母亲的亲戚是很有势力的昆西家族, 父亲则是一位广受人们尊敬的基督教公理会的牧师。

阿比盖尔相当聪慧。在她那个时代, 女性几乎受不到什么正规教育, 可是阿比盖尔却很有学问而且阅读广泛。同样聪明的约翰·亚当斯和阿比盖尔正好是相当完美的一对。1764 年阿比盖尔和亚当斯结婚时差不多已经 20 岁了。她和丈夫共同生活了 54 年, 直到 1818 年去世。两人配合默契, 无论是大陆会议的问题还是总统职位的问题, 在向任何其他人士请教之前, 亚当斯总是先听取她的建议。她给丈夫提出了什么最有名的忠告, 从而使她广为人知呢?

阿比盖尔·亚当斯主张妇女应有更广泛的政治权利, 尤其是离婚和财产的所有权方面。阿比盖尔在 1776 年写给丈夫的一封信里请求丈夫和美国的开国先辈们“请记住妇女们吧”, 请求他们在为新国家设计框架时要公正。亚当斯没有听从妻子的这一条建议。阿比盖尔·亚当斯没有亲自告诉丈夫, 而是给丈夫写了这封题为“请记住妇女们吧”的信, 你知道为什么吗?

约翰·亚当斯先当律师, 接着是大陆会议的成员, 然后又作为外交官到国外任职。繁忙的工作使他数个星期、数月甚至是几年远离阿比盖尔和他在马萨诸塞布伦特里不断扩大的家庭。可是约翰和阿比盖尔却频繁地通信。在没有电话(或者电子邮件)之前, 写信是惯常使用的交流工具。约翰把阿比盖尔看作是他的“通讯员”。他们信件的内容涉及从日常生活到约翰·亚当斯和其他开国先辈们面对的重要工作等。阿比盖尔那 2 000 多封信里按年代顺序记录了她独自一个人抚养孩子和在革命战争期间管理

农场的经历。可是,她留给后人们的却是一个关于历史事件的重要报告,里面记载的都是有关美国作为一个国家诞生时的的问题。她的历史知识非常渊博,而且还是一个很有天赋的评论员和作家。

阿比盖尔最终和正在国外担任外交官的丈夫团聚了。1788年他们夫妇回国后,在约翰·亚当斯担任华盛顿的副总统任期内,阿比盖尔成了第一夫人玛莎·华盛顿钦佩的朋友和她其办各式招待会的顾问。在亚当斯1797年到1801年自己担任总统期间,他们夫妇指导了政府从费城迁往首都华盛顿的工作,并成为第一个进驻白宫的总统家庭。尽管阿比盖尔在白宫只住了三个月,但她作为女主人却主办了好几次正式的社交聚会。亚当斯总统任职期满后,终于得到了他们夫妻二人长期以来渴望的团聚时间,和阿比盖尔在他们位于布伦特里的新家住了17年。

2)



Atlas of Independence

美国独立的栋梁之才

John Adams was a short man, but long on opinions and always thinking for himself. This earned him the nickname “Atlas of Independence”. His father (a farmer, shoemaker, local government leader, and church **deacon**¹) encouraged him intellectually from a young age. After attending Harvard College, John Adams worked as a teacher and then for many years as a lawyer, developing a reputation for being independent, outspoken, and honest.

Adams moved into public service just as the movement for an independent America was developing. What kind of leadership role did Adams play in the creation of the United States?

John Adams was an early member of the Continental Congress, which was created to resist British **tyranny**². It met in Philadelphia, eventually plotting American independence from Britain. While there, in 1775, Adams **nominated**³ George Washington, a Virginian, to lead the Continental Army. In 1776, Adams **seconded**⁴ the **motion**⁵ for independence in the Continental Congress and was a leader in the committee to draft the Declaration of Independence, signed on July 4, 1776.

Adams later became a diplomat, representing the new U. S. government in Europe for more than a decade. He helped negotiate *The Treaty of Paris*⁶ in 1783, ending the Revolutionary War, and was the first official U. S. ambassador to Great Britain. His reputation as a patriotic leader continued to grow.

Returning to the United States after his foreign service, Adams served under George Washington from 1789 to 1797 as the nation's first vice president, a job he didn't really like. He was finally elected president in 1796. There were 16 states in the union at the time of his election.

How do you think Adams described the vice presidency to his wife, Abigail?

Adams described the position to his wife as “the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man **contrived**⁷ or his imagination **conceived**⁸”. Once he was elected president, Adams was finally able to feel relevant again and flex his brain “muscles”, not to mention his **ego**⁹.

President Adams **implemented**¹⁰ the decision to move the government from

Philadelphia to Washington and exercised leadership with such decisions as creating the Library of Congress, both in 1800. Adams was well respected, but faced a series of foreign policy crises, which eventually isolated him politically.

His actions ultimately cost him the election to Thomas Jefferson in 1800.



Notes ▶

1. deacon /'di:kən/ *n.* (基督教新教的)执事
2. tyranny /'tirəni/ *n.* 暴政, 苛政
3. nominate /'nɒmɪneɪt/ *vt.* 提名, 推荐
4. second /'sekənd/ *vt.* 赞成, 支持
5. motion /'məʊʃən/ *n.* 提议; 动议
6. the Treaty of Paris 《巴黎和约》, 1783年9月3日, 由大英帝国的代表和北美殖民地的代表签署的和平协议, 正式结束了美国独立战争, 英国承认北美殖民地为“美利坚合众国”。当时签署此合约的殖民地代表有约翰·亚当斯、本杰明·富兰克林和约翰·杰伊。
7. contrive /kən'traɪv/ *vt.* 发明, 设计
8. conceive /kən'si:v/ *vt.* 想象; 构想, 设想
9. ego /'i:ɡəʊ/ *n.* 自我; 适度的自我骄傲; 自尊心
10. implement /'ɪmplɪmənt/ *vt.* 使生效, 执行



参考译文 ▶

约翰·亚当斯个子不高, 但个人见解独特, 而且总是独立思考。这为他赢得了“美国独立的栋梁之才”的雅号。他父亲(农民、鞋匠、地方政府的领导人以及教会执事)从小就鼓励他理性地思考问题。亚当斯在哈佛学院毕业后, 先成为一名教师, 然后又做了多年的律师。这期间, 他由于个人的独立见解、坦率直言的做事方法以及诚实的为人逐步赢得了声誉。

亚当斯步入政治舞台时正值美国争取独立的运动蓬勃兴起之时。亚当斯在创立美国的运动中发挥了什么样的领导才能呢?

约翰·亚当斯很早就进入了大陆会议。大陆会议是领导殖民地人民反抗英国暴政统治的机构。在担任大陆会议成员期间, 亚当斯于1775年提名由弗吉尼亚的乔治·华盛顿来领导大陆军。1776年, 亚当斯在大陆会议上支持独立的提议并担任《独立宣言》起草委员会的领导人。《独立宣言》在1776年7月4日签署。

后来, 亚当斯作为外交官, 在欧洲担任新成立的美国政府的代表长达十几年时间。1783年, 他协助了《巴黎和约》的谈判。《巴黎和约》的签订结束了美国独立战争, 亚当斯成了第一位美国政府驻英国的大使。他作为一名爱国领导人的声誉也在持续不断地提升。

外交官任期结束后,亚当斯回到了美国,在1789年到1797年间担任乔治·华盛顿领导下的这个国家的第一位副总统。这是一项他并不真正愿意做的工作。最后,他于1796年被选为总统。在他当选时美国只有16个州。

你认为亚当斯会如何向他的夫人阿比盖尔描述副总统职位呢?

亚当斯向他的夫人这样形容他的副总统职位:“(副总统职位是)人类创造出的或构想出的最不重要的政府高级职位”。亚当斯一当选为总统,马上就觉得终于又有了适合他的工作,可以发挥他大脑的作用了,当然也更能发挥他个人的理念了。

亚当斯总统执行了把政府从费城迁往华盛顿的决议,并决定建立国会图书馆,以此来显示了他作为总统的领导才能。这两件事都发生在1800年。亚当斯受到人们的普遍尊重,但是他却面临着一系列的外交政策危机,这使得他最终在政治上陷入孤立无援的境地。

他的行为使他最后在1800年的选举中败给了托马斯·杰斐逊。