

胡立家编

FAMOUS
AMERICAN
SONGS
AND
THEIR
CULTURAL
BACKGROUND

美国著名歌曲

及其文化背景知识

上海外语音像出版社

Famous American Songs and their
Cultural Background

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本书配磁带

前 言

《美国著名歌曲及其文化背景知识》精选了美国建国以来比较流行的 16 首歌曲，其中有经久流传的名歌，乐曲家的名篇以及一些格调古朴，但立意新颖的黑人歌曲。它们都以曲调优美、歌词简炼见称。每首歌曲之前均有简明的文化背景知识的英语解说，既可帮助学习者扩大知识面，又有利于教学和自学使用。

中学教师可用此书和录音带作为课堂教学的补充材料，活跃课堂气氛，增强学生学习英语的兴趣。此外，尚可作为语音、语调与基本句型操练的教材。

大专院校英语专业的学生也可利用本书和录音带进行课外活动。

录音带 2 盒由上海外语音像出版社编制出版，美国耶鲁大学美国学博士 Bruce Ronda 和 Priscilla Inkpen 朗读。

因水平有限，难免有遗误之处，望读者指正。

编 者

1984 年 11 月

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Unit One

Yankee Doodle

I. Cultural background:

Hello, listeners, now we are going to give you some very famous American songs. To each song, we'll first tell you something about the cultural background, that is, the life and history of American people. And this, we hope, will help you understand the songs better.

The first song we like to let you have is "Yankee Doodle". It is usually considered to be one of the best known of all American songs. This song has become popular since the colonial days—i.e., at the time when the Americans were still under the control of the British government. Their relationships began to get worse in 1763 when the British did not allow the American pioneers to settle down and trade in the west lands. War broke out in 1775. After 8 years of hard fighting the Americans finally won and they gained their independence. *Yankee Doodle* was the song that inspired greatly their struggle against the British troops. Liked by all Americans, this song has, since then, become very popular.

II. The Song

Yankee Doodle

Father and I went down to camp,
Along with Captain Goodin'
And there we saw the men and boys
As thick as hasty puddin'.

Chorus:

Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle Dandy,
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

And there we saw a thousand men,
As rich as Squire David;
And what they wasted ev'ry day,
I wish it could be saved.

Chorus:

Yankee Doodle keep it up,
Yankee Doodle Dandy,
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

And there was Captain Washington
Upon a slapping stallion,

A-giving orders to his men;
I guess there was a million.

Chorus:

Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

And then the feathers on his hat,
They looked so very fine, ah!
I wanted peskily to get
To give to my Jemima.

Chorus:

Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle Dandy,
Mind the music and the step,
And with the girls be handy.

Notes:

1. Yankee Doodle 扬基·都德尔, 现多指美国人, 原含有讥笑意味。

Yankee 泛指美国人

Doodle 意为乡下佬

这个词的来源却有些历史背景。

远在欧洲十六世纪莎士比亚时代, “扬基·都德尔”曲调

是唱给幼儿听的。后在美洲也逐渐流行起来。十七世纪英国骑士们为取笑当时英国农民军事领袖克伦威尔 (Oliver Cromwell 1599-1658), 编造了这样一段歌词:

“扬基·都德尔(指克)走进城来,
骑着一匹肯特郡产的小马上;
他帽子上插着一根鸡翎毛,
活像从意大利来的公子哥儿。

以后, 相传一位英国军医理查德·肖克博 (Richard Schueckburgh) 写了一首也名为“扬基·都德尔”的歌曲来讥笑当时没有经过正规训练的美国农民军。而正是这支被嘲笑的美军军队在“扬基·都德尔”的乐曲声中, 怀着豪迈的激情开赴前线, 击败了穿着笔挺鲜红军服的英国皇家军队。自1775年以来, 获得独立的美国人民喜爱这支歌曲, 现成为极流行的进行曲了。

2. Captain Goodin' = Cap. Gooding (虚构人名) 古丁上尉

3. as thick as hasty puddin' (=pudding) 喻指人群十分稠密

hasty ['heisti] *adj.* 匆忙准备的(布丁)

4. Dandy ['dændi] *n.* 花花公子

5. Mind the music and the step 随着音乐起舞

6. handy ['hændi] *adj.* 近处的

7. Squire David ['skwaɪə 'deivid] *n.* (虚构人名) 富豪大卫

8. ev'ry = every 为了节拍, 省略一个音节

9. keep it up 坚持战斗

10. Captain Washington 华盛顿大尉, 后即在一七八九

年被选为美国第一任总统。

11. slapping stallion 高大的骏马

slapping ['slæpiŋ] *adj.* 快速的

stallion ['stæljən] *n.* 种马

12. A-giving = to be giving, “a” 这个前缀加在现在分词前表示进行时态。

13. I guess = I think (美语)

14. peskily = desperately *adv.* 急切地

15. Jemima *n.* (女子名)杰米玛

Yankee Doodle

$$l = G \frac{2}{4}$$

1	³ 1	1	2	3	1	3	2	<u>0 5</u>
Fath-er	and	I	went	down	to	camp	A-	

1	1	2	3	1	—	1	<u>0 5</u>
long	with	Cap-tain	Good-	in,	And		

1	1	2	3	4	3	2	1
there	we	saw	the	men	and	boys	As

<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	1	—	1	—
thick	as	hast-	y	pud-		din'	

Chorus

<u>6</u>	• <u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	1	—
Yan-kee	Doo-dle,	keep	it	up,			

5̣ . 6̣	5̣ 4̣	3̣ —	5̣ —
Yai-kec	Doo-dle	Dan-	dy,
6̣ . 7̣	6̣ 5̣	6̣ 7̣	1 6̣
Mind the	mu- sic	and the	step And
5̣ 1	7̣ 2	1 —	1 —
with the	girls be	han-	dy.

Unit Two

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!

I. Cultural background:

Hello everyone, this time we'll give you the song, *Glory, Glory Hallelujah!*. It's a patriotic song. It has played an important role in American life in the last 200 years.

Maybe you have heard of the name John Brown. He was a person who wanted to end slavery in America. He encouraged Negro slaves to rebel. For this, he was put to death by the court.

This song sang of the great character. As for the melody, it came from an old hymn. A hymn is a kind of song of praise to God sung in a religious service. So you see, there is the word "hallelujah" in it. During the American Civil War, the Union Troops liked to sing it and soon it became a popular song.

H. D. Thoreau, a famous American writer of his day, spoke highly of him:

"No man in America has ever stood up so persistently and effectively for the dignity of human nature, knowing himself for a man, and the equal of any and

all governments. In that sense, he (J. Brown) was the most American of us all."

II. The Song:

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!

John Brown's body lies amouldering in the grave,
John Brown's body lies amouldering in the grave,
John Brown's body lies amouldering in the grave.
But his soul goes marching on.

Chorus:

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
And his soul goes marching on.

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord.
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord.
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord.
But his soul goes marching on.

Chorus:

Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!

And his soul goes marching on.

The stars of Heaven, they are looking kindly down,
The stars of Heaven, they are looking kindly down,
The stars of Heaven, they are looking kindly down,
On the soul of old John Brown.

Chorus:

Glory, glory hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah!

And his soul goes marching on.

Notes:

1. hallelujah [ˌhæliˈluːjə] *n. & int.* 希伯来语, 赞美上帝的欢呼词。本集中“Nobody Knows the Trouble I See”歌中也出现此词。现已通用为对上帝的赞美。

2. body *n.* 尸体

3. a-mouldering [əˈmouldəriŋ] 意为腐烂; 此词中的“a”是前缀, 为古英语构成进行时的一种形式。歌词中常运用这种构词法, 以获得适当的节奏。

4. He's gone 是 He has gone 的缩写形式

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!

1=^bA $\frac{2}{2}$

5 5. 4 3. 5 1. 2

John Brown's bod- y lies a-

3. 3 3. 2 1 —

mould- 'ring in the grave,

6 6. 7 1. 7 1. 6

John Brown's bod- y lies a-

5. 6 5. 3 5 —

mould-ring in the grave,

5 5. 4 3. 5 1. 2

John Brown's bod- y lies a-

3. 3 3. 2 10 1. 1

mould-ring in the grave, But his

2 2 1 7 | 1 ——— | *Chorus*

soul goes marching on. Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-

3-1 0 | 6. 7 1. 7 1. 6

lu—jah ! Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le

$\dot{5}-\dot{3}$ 0 | $\dot{5}\cdot$ $\underline{\dot{4}}$ $\underline{\dot{3}\cdot}$ $\underline{\dot{5}}$ $\underline{\dot{1}\cdot}$ $\underline{\dot{2}}$ |
 lu-jah! ! Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-
 $\overset{\frown}{3}$ 2 1 $\underline{\underline{\dot{7}\cdot}}$ $\underline{\underline{\dot{1}}}$ | 2 2 1 $\dot{7}$ | 1—0 |
 lu-jah! And his soul goes march-ing on.