



An English-chinese Collation

Uncle Tom's Cabin

汤姆叔叔的小屋

(美)斯陀夫人

中国戏剧出版社

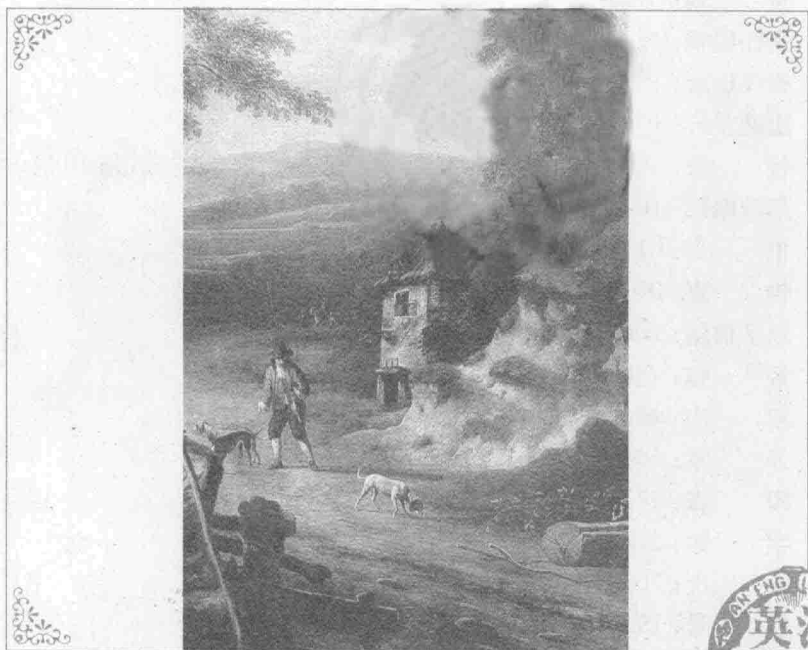
英汉对照全译本

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外国文学名著精粹文集

The Collected Masterworks of the Foreign Literature

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I In Which the Reader Is Introduced to a Man of Humanity

Late in the afternoon of a chilly day in February, two gentlemen were sitting alone over their wine, in a well-furnished dining parlor, in the town of pin Kentucky. There were no servants present, and the gentlemen, with chairs closely approaching, seemed to be discussing some subject with great earnestness.

For convenience sake, we have said, hitherto, two gentlemen. One of the parties, however, when critically examined, did not seem, strictly speaking, to come under the species. He was a short, thick-set man, with coarse, commonplace features, and that swaggering air of pretension which marks a low man who is trying to elbow his way upward in the world. He was much overdressed, in a gaudy vest of many colors, a blue neckerchief, bedropped gayly with yellow spots, and arranged with a flaunting tie, quite in keeping with the general air of the man. His bands, large and coarse, were plentifully bedecked with rings; and he wore a heavy gold watch-chain, with a bundle of seals of portentous size, and a great variety of colors, attached to it, - which, in the ardor of conversation, he was in the habit of flourishing and jingling with evident satisfaction. His conversation was in free and easy defiance of Murray's Grammar, and was garnished at convenient intervals with various profane expressions, which not even the desire to be graphic in our account shall induce us to transcribe.

His companion, Mr. Shelby, had the appearance of a gentle man; and the arrangements of the house, and the general air of the housekeeping, indicated easy, and even opulent circumstances. As we before stated, the two were in the midst of an earnest conversation.

"That is the way I should arrange the matter," said Mr. Shelby.

"I can't make trade that way - I positively can't, Mr. Shelby," said the other, holding up a glass of wine between his eye and the light.

"Why, the fact is, Haley, Tom is an uncommon fellow; he is certainly worth that sum anywhere, - steady, honest, capable, manages my whole farm like a clock."

"You mean honest, as niggers go," said Haley, helping himself to a glass of brandy.

第一章 本章给读者 介绍一位善人

二月里某日黄昏,寒气袭人,肯塔基州P城一间陈设精致的客厅里,有两位绅士对坐小酌。屋子里没有仆人。两位绅士的座位挨得很近,好像是在非常认真地商谈什么事情。

为了方便起见,我们前面说的都是两位“绅士”;其实,如果仔细推敲起来,其中有一位,严格地说,似乎不配跻身于绅士之林。此人矮矮胖胖,其貌不扬,却老爱摆出一副神气活现的臭架子;一望而知,是那种在社会上极力钻营的小人。他的衣着过分考究:上身穿一件俗不可耐的背心,脖子上围一条蓝底黄点子、十分耀眼的围巾,再配上一根花花绿绿的领带;这副打扮跟他这个人的派头倒是十分相称。两只手又粗又大,手指上戴着好几枚戒指;身上还佩带着一根颇有分量的金表链,表链下面系着一串五光十色、大得惊人的图章(这种图章是金属做的,扁而平,不像我国的图章那样,一般都是长方形的。);每逢谈话谈得起劲的时候,他总喜欢把表链挥动得丁当作响,显出一副怡然自得的神气。他谈话时任意糟蹋《茂莱氏语法》(当时在英、美极力流行的语法书,作者为美国语法学家茂莱氏。),并不时点缀着一些猥亵不敬的词句。本书作者虽然力求生动,也不愿在此加以转述。

跟他一起谈话的那位谢尔贝先生倒是个绅士模样的人;屋子里的陈设和气派都说明此人家道小康,甚至可以说得上颇为富裕。如上所述,双方正在非常认真地商谈什么事情。

“我看就这么办吧。”谢尔贝先生道。

“这种买卖我做不了,谢尔贝先生,实在不行。”对方答道,一面举起酒杯来对着灯光端详着。(西方人饮酒前常常举杯在灯光前或亮处观察酒纯不纯,或表示对酒的欣赏。)

“可是,海利,汤姆可真是跟一般黑奴不一样啊——稳重、诚实、又能干,把我整个庄园管理得井井有条。他到哪儿都值这个价钱。”

“你是说黑人那种诚实吧?”海利问道,一面又斟了一杯白兰地。

“No; I mean, really, Tom is a good steady sensible, pious fellow. He got religion at a camp-meeting, four years ago; and I believe he really did get it. I've trusted him, since then, with everything I have, - money, house, horses, and let him come and go round the country; and I always found him true and square in everything.”

“Some folks don't believe there is pious niggers, Shelby,” said Haley, with a candid flourish of his hand, “but I do. I had a fellow, now, in this yer last lot I took to Orleans - 't was as good as a meetin', now, really, to hear that creature pray; and he was quite gentle and quietlike. He fetched me a good sum, too, for I bought him cheap of a man that was obliged to sell out; so I realized six hundred on him. Yes, I consider religion a valeable thing in a nigger, when it's the genuine article, and no mistake.”

“Well, Tom's got the real article, if ever afellow had,” rejoined the other. “Why, last fall, I let him go to Cincinnati alone, to do business for me, and bring home five hundred dollars. ‘Tom,’ says I to him, ‘I trust you because I think you're a Christian - I know you wouldn't cheat. ‘Tom comes back, sure enough; I knew he would. Some low fellows, they say, said to him - ‘Tom, why don't you make tracks for Canada?’ ‘Ah, master trusted me, and I couldn't’, - they told me about it. I am sorry to part with Tom, I must say. You ought to let him cover the whole balance of the debt; and you would, Haley, if you had any conscience.”

“Well, I've got just as much conscience as any man in business can afford to keep, - just a little, you know, to swear by, as 't were,” said the trader, jocularly; “and, then, I'm ready to do anything in reason to 'blige friends; but this yer, you see, is a little too hard on a fellow - aleetle too hard.” The trader sighed contemplatively, and poured out some more brandy.

“Well, then, Haley, how will you trade?” said Mr. Shelby, after an uneasy interval of silence.

“Well, haven't you a boy or girl that you could throw in with Tom?”

“Hum! - none that I could well spare; to tell the truth, it's only hard necessity makes me willing to sell at all. I don't like parting with any of my hands, that's a fact.”

Here the door opened, and a small quadroon boy, between four and five years of age, entered the room.

“不,我是说实话,汤姆的确是个好伙人,又稳重、又精明、又虔诚。四年前,他在一次野外布道会上皈依了基督教,我相信他是诚心诚意的。从此以后,我就把全部产业——钱、房子、马匹,全都交给他管,并且让他自由行动。汤姆处处都表现得忠实可靠。”

“谢尔贝,有些人根本就不信有虔诚的黑奴,”海利一面说,一面坦率地摆了摆手,“我倒是信。我上次贩到奥尔良(即新奥尔良,美国南部路易斯安那州产棉城市,当时是一个庞大的黑奴市场。)去的那批黑奴里面就有这么一个——那家伙做起祷告来就跟礼拜堂里听见的一样,性情很驯和,也不爱多说话。我在他身上赚了一大笔钱。当时卖主急于脱手,所以来价就很便宜;我在他身上净赚了六百块大洋。说实话,我认为一个黑奴信教的确有好处,不过得货真价实才行。”

“咳,要讲货真价实,可再没有比汤姆更地道的了。”谢尔贝答道。“去年秋天我打发他一个人到辛辛那提(美国东北部俄亥俄州一都市。)去替我办事,顺带捎回五百块钱来。‘汤姆,’我对他说,‘我信得过了你,因为我相信你是个基督徒——我知道你不会欺骗我。’果不其然,汤姆回来了;我早就料到他会回来的。听说有几个坏蛋跟他说,‘汤姆,你干吗不逃到加拿大去呢?’‘哎,东家信赖我,我可不能干这种事。’——这是别人告诉我的。老实说,我真舍不得把汤姆卖掉,你应该让他抵消我的全部债务才对;海利,要是你有良心的话,一定会的。”

“我说,在买卖人里头,我就算得是够有良心的啦,——咳,说实在的,只够发誓用的那么点儿,”海利打趣道,“而且,看在朋友面上,只要做得到的,我总是乐意帮忙的。不过,这桩买卖,你也知道,有点叫我太为难啦,实在太为难啦。”海利一面深沉地叹了口气,一面又往杯子里斟酒。

“海利,那么你说怎么办呢?”双方很不自在地沉默了半晌之后,谢尔贝问道。

“唔,除掉汤姆以外,再添上个小男孩或是个小姑娘,行不行?”

“咳!——我实在没有多余的人了;不瞒你说,我卖黑奴是万不得已的事。但凡有办法,我一个也不愿卖,这是实在话。”

正在这当儿,房门开了。一个四、五岁左右的第二代混血男孩(第一代混血

There was something in his appearance remarkably beautiful and engaging. His black hair, fine as floss silk, hung in glossy curls about his round, dimpled face, while a pair of large dark eyes, full of fire and softness, looked out from beneath the rich, long lashes, as he peered curiously into the apartment. A gay tube of scarlet and yellow plaid, carefully made and nearly fitted, set off to advantage the dark and rich style of his beauty; and a certain comic air of assurance, blended with bashfulness, showed that he had been not unused to being petted and noticed by his master.

"Hulloa, Jim Crow!" said Mr. Shelby, whistling, and snapping a bunch of raisins towards him, "pick that up, now!"

The child scampered, with all his little strength, after the prize, while his master laughed.

"Come here, Jim Crow," said he. The child came up, and the master patted the curly head, and chucked him under the chin.

"Now, Jim, show this gentleman how you can dance and sing." The boy commenced one of those wild, grotesque songs common among the negroes, in a rich, clear voice, accompanying his singing with many comic evolutions of the hands, feet, and whole body, all in perfect time to the music.

"Bravo!" said Haley, throwing him a quarter of an orange.

"Now, Jim, walk like old Uncle Cudjoe, when he has the rheumatism," said his master.

Instantly the flexible limbs of the child assumed the appearance of deformity and distortion, as, with his back humped up, and his master's stick in his hand, he hobbled about the room, his childish face drawn into a doleful pucker, and spitting from right to left, in imitation of an old man. Both gentlemen laughed uproariously.

"Now, Jim," said his master, "show us how old Elder Robbins leads the psalm." The boy drew his chubby face down to a formidable length, and commenced toning a psalm tune through his nose, with imperturbable gravity.

"Hurrah! bravo! what a young one!" said Haley; "that chap's a ease, I'll promise. Tell you what," said he, suddenly clapping his hand on Mr. Shelby's shoulder, "fling in that chap, and I'll settle the business - I will. Come, now, if that ain't doing the thing up about the rightest!"

At this moment, the door was pushed gently open,

儿:黑人和白人血统各半。第二代混血儿:白人血统四分之三,黑人血统四分之一。)走了进来。这孩子相貌长得分外清秀,特别逗人喜爱。圆圆的脸蛋上有一对酒窝,头上覆盖着一圈圈光滑、蜷曲、细如绢丝的黑头发;一双又大又黑、柔和而炯炯有光的眼睛,从两道浓浓的长睫毛下面好奇地向屋内张望着。他身穿一件红黄格子花呢的罩衫;手工精致,剪裁合身,越发衬托出这孩子黝黑、浓郁的俊秀劲儿;那种悠然自得、滑稽有趣而又略带羞涩的神态,表明他惯常得到东家的青睐和宠爱。

"嗨,吉姆·克罗(黑人的蔑称,在美国非常通行。这里是戏称。)"谢尔贝先生叫道,他吹了声口哨,抓起一把葡萄干向那孩子扔去。"快捡起来!"

那孩子拼命跑过去拾取奖赏,东家见了不由哈哈大笑。

"到这儿来,吉姆·克罗,"谢尔贝喊道。那孩子便走了过去。东家拍了拍他那覆盖着鬃发的脑袋,拧了一下他的下巴。

"来,吉姆,给这位先生唱支歌,跳个舞,显点功夫给他看看。"那孩子便以清脆而明亮的嗓音唱起一支热情、怪诞、在黑人中间非常流行的歌曲来;一面手舞足蹈,全身扭摆,用许多令人发笑的动作作为伴衬,和音乐的节奏配合得恰到好处。

"呱呱叫!"海利喝彩道,一面把半个橘子扔给那孩子。

"来,吉姆,你学一学卡德卓大爷关节炎发作时走路的样子吧!"东家说。

那孩子柔软的四肢立刻装成残疾的模样,同时驼起了背,扶着东家的手杖,在屋子里步履维艰地走着;稚气横溢的面孔上,装出一副愁眉苦脸的样子;还学着老年人左一口、右一口地吐着痰。两位绅士都不由哈哈大笑起来。

"吉姆,现在给我们表演一下罗宾斯长老领唱诗篇的模样吧。"于是那孩子就把圆胖的小脸拉得老长,装出稳重而严肃的神气,用鼻音哼起一首诗篇来。

"好极了!呱呱叫!这小家伙真了不起!"海利称赞道,"这小家伙准是个神童。嗨,有啦,"他忽然拍了一下谢尔贝先生的肩膀说,"你把这个小家伙给我添上,这笔债务就算是结了——一言为定。你自己说,还有比这更公道的吗?"

这时,房门又被轻轻推开,一个二十

and a young quadroon woman, apparently about twenty five, entered the room.

There needed only a glance from the child to her, to identify her as its mother. There was the same rich, full, dark eye, with its long lashes; the same ripples of silky black hair. The brown of her complexion gave way on the cheek to aperceptible flush, which deepened as she saw the gaze of the strange man fixed upon her in bold and undisguised admiration. Her dress was of the neatest possible fit, and set off to advantage her finely moulded shape; — a delicately formed hand and a trim foot and ankle were items of appearance that did not escape the quick eye of the trader, well used to nm up at a glance the points of a fine female article.

“Well, Eliza?” said her master, as she stopped and looked hesitatingly at him.

“I was looking for Harry, please, sir”; and the boy bounded toward her, showing his spoils, which he had gathered in the skirt of his robe.

“Well, take him away, then, said Mr. Shelby; and hastily she withdrew, carrying the child OH her ann.

“By Jupiter,” said the trader, turning to him in admiration, “there’s an article, now! You might make your fortune on that girl in Orleans, any day. I’ve seen over a thousand, in my day, paid down for gals not a bit handsomer.”

“I don’t want to make my fortune on her,” said Mr. Shelby, dryly; and, seeking to nm the conversation, he uncorked a bottle of fresh wine, and asked his companion’s opinion of it.

“Capital, sir, — first chop!” said the trader; then turning, and slapping his hand familiarly on Shelby’s shoulder, he added

“Come, how will you trade about the gal? what shall I say for her — what’ U you take?”

“Mr. Haley, she is not to be sold,” said Shelby. “My wife would not part with her for her weight in gold.”

“Ay, ay! women always say such things, cause they ha’ nt no sort of calculation. Just show’ em how many watches, feathers, and trinkets, one’s weight in gold would buy, and that alters the case, I reckon.”

“I tell you, Haley, this must not be spoken of; I say no, and I mean no,” said Shelby, decidedly.

“Well, you’ll let me have the boy, though,” said the

五岁上下的第二代混血少妇走进屋来。

一眼就可以看出,这个年轻女人就是那孩子的母亲。她有一双和他同样炯炯有光、滚圆而乌黑的眼睛,上面覆盖着两道长睫毛;同样像绢丝一般光滑、卷曲的黑发;这当儿,她那棕色的脸颊上微微泛起一朵红云;当她发现那陌生人贪婪的目光肆无忌惮地打量她、死盯着她不放时,两颊越发胀得通红。她穿的衣裳剪裁得精致合身,更把她那窈窕的体态恰到好处地衬托了出来。连她那双娇嫩的手、纤细的脚和踝等细节也逃不过那黑奴贩子犀利的眼光。海利那双眼睛训练有素,往往一眼就能把一个漂亮的女黑奴全身各个部分打量得清清楚楚。

“有事吗,伊丽莎?”当她站在那里进退两难地望着东家时,谢尔贝问道。

“对不起,老爷,我是来找哈利的。”那孩子听了,便蹦蹦跳跳地跑到母亲跟前,打开兜里赢得的赏资给她看。

“噢,那你就把他带走吧,”谢尔贝先生道。于是伊丽莎连忙抱着孩子出去了。

“哎呀!”那黑奴贩子转过身来垂涎三尺地对谢尔贝称赞道,“这件货色可真不错!这姑娘拿到奥尔良去,保你可以发笔大财。我以前多次看见人家出一千多元买一个黑姑娘,人才还并不比你这个出色呢。”

“我不想靠她发财。”谢尔贝冷冷地答道。为了转移话题,他又开了一瓶酒,问海利酒味如何。

“呱呱叫,先生——头路货色!”海利答道。接着,他转过身来亲热地拍了拍谢尔贝的肩膀又说。

“我说,你那个姑娘怎么卖——我得出多少钱——你要多少?”

“海利先生,这个姑娘我是决不肯卖的,”谢尔贝答道,“你就是拿和她个人一样重的金人来换她,内人也不肯换给你的。”

“咳!女人嘛,嘴里总是这么说,因为他们不会打算盘。你只要算给她们听,像人那么重的金子可以换多少只表,多少羽毛和首饰,我看她们就不会这么说了。”

“我跟你讲,海利,这事不必再提了。我说不行就不行。”谢尔贝斩钉截铁地答道。

“好吧,那你总得把那个孩子给我

trader; "you must own I've come down pretty handsomely for him."

"What on earth can you want with the child?" said Shelby.

"Why, I've got a friend that's going into this yerr branch of the business - wants to buy up handsome boys to raise for the market, Fancy articles entirely - set for waiters, and so on, to rich' uns, that can pay for handsome' uns. It set off one of yer great places - a real handsome boy to open door, wait, and tend. They fetch a good sum; and this little devil is such a conical, musical concern, he's just the article."

"I would rather not sell him," said Mr. Shelby, thoughtfully; "the fact is, sir, I'm a humane man, and I hate to take the boy from his mother, str."

"O, you do? - La! yes - something of that nature. I understand, perfectly. It is mighty unpleasant getting on with women, sometimes. I always hates these yer screechin', screamin' times. They are mighty onpleasant; but, as I manages business, I generally avoids' em, sir. Now, what if you get the girl off for a day, or a week, or so; then the thing's done quietly, - all over before she comes home. Your wife might get her some ear-rings, or a new gown, or some such truck, to make up with her."

"I'm afraid not."

"Lord bless ye, yes! These critters an't like white folks, you know; they gets over things, only manage right. Now, they say," said Haley, assuming a candid and confidential air, "that this kind o' trade is hardening to the feelings; but I never found it so. Fact is, I never could do things up the way some fellow manage the business. I've seen' em as would pull a woman's child out of her arms, and set him up to sell, and she screechin' like mad all the time; revery bad policy - damages the article - makes' em quite unfit for service sometimes. I knew a real handsome gal once, in Orleans, as was entirely mined by this sort o' hating. The fellow that was trading for her didn't want her baby; and she was one of your real high sort, when her blood was up. I tell you, she squeezed up her child in her arms, and talked, and went on real awful. It kind of makes my blood nm cold to think on't; and when they carried off the child, and locked her up, she just went ravin' mad, and died in a week. Clear waste, sir, of a thousand dollars, just for want of management, there's where't is. It's always best to do the humane thing, sir; that's been my experience." And the trader leaned back in his chair, and folded his ann, with

罗,"海利道,"你不能不承认,我已经对你作了很大的让步了吧。"

"你到底要那孩子作什么用啊?"谢尔贝问道。

"噢,我有一个同行想收一批长得俊俏的男孩子,把他们养大之后拿去拍卖。全要漂亮货色——卖给那些肯出高价钱买个漂亮小伙子回去当听差使的阔佬们。有个漂亮小伙子应应门、侍候侍候,不是可以给那些高楼大厦添点光彩吗?这种货色行情高着呢。这小鬼既有趣、又能唱,正是这路货色。"

"我可实在不愿意卖,"谢尔贝先生煞费思索地说,"不瞒你说,先生,我这个人心肠太软,不忍心拆散人家的骨肉。"

"噢,原来如此。哎,是啊——是这样,我完全能体谅你的心情。跟女人打交道有时确实非常麻烦,我一向讨厌那种哭哭啼啼的场面,叫人心里怪不舒服的。不过,先生,我做这行买卖,总有办法避免这种场面。你看,把这个姑娘弄到别的地方去待上一天,或是一个礼拜,怎么样?那样一来,人不知鬼不觉,事情就办妥了——在她回家以前都可以办得熨熨帖帖。然后,让你太太给她买一副耳环,一件新衣服,或是诸如此类的小礼物,给她补偿一下。"

"我看恐怕行不通。"

"包你行得通!你不知道,黑人不像白人,只要你想得出好办法,他们慢慢就会好的,"海利装出一副坦率、推心置腹的神气道。"人家说,这行买卖会使一个人变成铁石心肠,我倒没有这种感觉。不瞒你说,我干这行买卖可决不像我们有些同行那样。我见过有些人从母亲怀里夺走孩子送去拍卖。那母亲成天象发了疯似的大哭大闹——这种办法很不上算,只能使商品受到损耗——有时使它们变得一文不值。有一次我在奥尔良看见一个顶标致的姑娘,就完全是这样被毁掉的。买主只要她本人,不要她的婴儿;这女人性子一上来可真够厉害的。你知怎么着,她把孩子紧紧搂在怀里,哇啦哇啦,闹得不亦乐乎。一想起这事,我心里直发凉。后来,他们抱走了她的孩子,把她关了起来。那妇人家一下子就疯了,嘴里尽说胡话,还不到一个礼拜就送了命。就这样白白扔掉一千块大洋,完全是由于经营不得法,就是这么回事。先生,其实最好还是采用人道的办法,至少我的经验是这样。"

an air of virtuous decision, apparently considering himself a second Wilberforce.

The subject appeared to interest the gentleman deeply; for while Mr. Shelby was thoughtfully peeling an orange, Haley broke out afresh, with becoming diffidence, but as if actually driven by the force of truth to say a few words more.

"It don't look well, now, for a feller to be praisin' himself; but I say it jest because it's the truth. I believe I'm reckoned to bring in about the finest droves of niggers that is brought in, mat least, I've been told so; if I have once, I reckon I have a hundred times, - all in good case, - fat and likely, and I lose as few as any man in the business. And I lays it all to my management, sir; and humanity, sir, I may say, is the great pillar of my management."

Mr. Shelby did not know what to say, and sohe said, "Indeed!"

"Now, I've been laughed at for my notions, sir, and I've been talked to. They an't pop' lar and they an't common; but I stuck to 'em, sir; ve stuck to em, and realized well on em; yes, sir, they have paid their passage, I may say," and the trader laughed at his joke.

There was something so piquant and original in these elucidations of humanity, that Mr. Shelby could not help laughing in company. Perhaps you laugh too, dear reader; but you know humanity comes out in a variety of strange forms nowadays, and there is no end to the odd things that humane people will say and do.

Mr. Shelby's laugh encouraged the trader to proceed.

"It's strange, now, but I never could beat this into people's heads. Now, there was Tom Loker, my old partner, down in Natchez; he was a clever fellow, Tom was, only the very devil with niggers, - on principle' t was, you see, for a better hearted feller never broke bread; 't was his system, sir. I used to talk to Tom.' Why, Tom, 'I used to say, 'when your gals takes on and cry, what's the use o' crackin on' em over the head, and knockin' on' em round? It's ridiculous,' says I, 'and don't do no sort o' good. Why, I don't see no harm in their cryin', says I; 'it's natur,' says I, 'and if natur can't blow off one way, it will another. Besides, Tom, 'says I, 'it jest spoil your gals; they get sickly, and down in the mouth; and sometimes they gets ugly, - particular

海利说完这席话之后,往椅子背上一靠,两臂又在胸前,装出一副道貌岸然的面孔,俨然以韦尔勃伏斯(韦尔勃伏斯,十八、十九世纪之交英国废奴主义者,以同情黑奴,主张废除黑奴制度见著。)第二自居。

此君对于人道主义问题似乎颇感兴趣。谢尔贝先生正在若有所思地剥橘子时,他又重新拾起这个话题来。他说时装着虚怀若谷的神气,但仿佛又确是出于义不容辞,不得不再补充几句似的。

"自吹自擂实在不是什么体面的事;不过我所以要说是因为我说的都是事实。我相信人家都公认我卖出去的黑奴,货色比谁的都强——至少我亲耳听见人家这样说过;不是哪一批,而是成百批都是这样——个个都很像样——又肥壮、又体面;而我的损耗却比谁的都小。先生,我看这都得归功于我经营得法呀;我的经营方针中最主要的精神就是人道主义。"

谢尔贝听了,无言可对,只得漫应了一声,“噢!”

“咳,先生,我这种主张可受到过不少人讥笑和警告呢。它不受欢迎,在市场上吃不开。可是,先生,我还是一直坚持到现在,并且仗着它赚了不少钱。先生,这不是善有善报吗?”说罢,那黑奴贩子不禁自己发起笑来。

海利对入道主义的这番阐述既辛辣、又新颖,连谢尔贝先生也忍不住陪着他笑了起来。亲爱的读者,恐怕你听了也会发笑吧;可是你有所不知,眼下人道主义有各种各样稀奇古怪的形式,而善人们的荒诞言行,那就更加不胜枚举了。

谢尔贝先生的笑声鼓励着海利继续发挥下去。

“真奇怪,我怎么也没法把这种主张灌进别人脑袋里去。喏,就拿我在纳捷斯(纳捷斯,密西西比河流域一商港。)的老伙计汤姆·洛克来说吧,他是个精明人,一点儿不错,可是对待黑奴却是个活阎王——这是从原则上说,懂吗?因为,讲对待朋友,汤姆心眼比谁都好。先生,这是他一贯的做法。我时常劝汤姆。‘唉,汤姆,’我说,‘黑娘儿们大哭大闹的时候,拳打脚踢有什么用处呢?这样做太蠢了,’我说,‘一点好处也没有。咳,让她们哭哭有什么关系呢?’我说,‘这是人之常情嘛,’我说。‘哭是一种发泄,如果你不让她们这样发泄,那她们就会找其他办法来

yellow gals do, and it's the devil and all gettin' on' em broke in. Now, says I, why can't you kinder coax em up, and speak em fair? Depend on it, Tom, a little humanity, thrown in along, goes a heap further than all your jawin' and crackin'; and it pays better," says I, "depend on't." But Tom couldn't get the hang on't; and he spiled so many for me, that I had to break off with him, though he was a good-hearted fellow, and as fair a business hand as is goin'."

"And do you find your ways of managing do the business better than Tom's?" said Mr. Shelby.

"Why, yes, sir, I may say so. You see, when I any ways can, I takes a leetle care about the onpleasant parts, like selling young uns and that, get the gals out of the way - out of sight, out of mind, you know, - and when it's clean done, and can't be helped, they naturally gets Used to it. It isn't, you know, as if it was white folks, that's brought up in the way of expecting to keep their children and wives, and all that. Niggers, you know, that's fetched up properly, haven't no kind of expectation of no kind; so all these things comes easier."

"I'm afraid mine are not properly brought up, then," said Mr. Shelby.

"Suppose not; you Kentucky folks spile your niggers. You mean well by 'em, but 'tan't no real kindness, after all. Now, a nigger, you see, what's got to be hacked and tumbled round the world, and sold to Tom, and Dick, and the Lord knows who, 'tan't no kindness to be givin' on him notions and expectations, and bringin' on him up too well, for the rough and tumble comes all the harder on him arter. Now, I venture to say, your niggers would be quite chop-fallen in a place where some of your plantation niggers would be singing and whooping like all possessed. Every man, you know, Mr. Shelby, naturally thinks well of his own ways; and I think I treat niggers just about as well as it's ever worth while to treat 'em."

"It's a happy thing to be satisfied," said Mr. Shelby, with a slight shrug, and some perceptible feelings of a disagreeable nature.

"Well," said Haley, after they had both silently picked their nits for a while, "what do you say."

"I'll think the matter over, and talk with my wife, said Mr. Shelby." Meantime, Haley, if you want the mat-

发泄。而且,汤姆,'我说,'这样蛮干会毁坏她们的长相的;她们会渐渐变得面黄肌瘦,愁眉苦脸;有时甚至会变得很丑,混血女子特别容易这样——要让她们调养过来得费九牛二虎之力。唉,'我说,'你干吗不能用好言好语哄她们呢?我的话没错,汤姆,随便施舍一点人道主义给她们,比你这样拳打脚踢要强得多,而且钱还赚得多呢,'我说,'准没错。'可是汤姆就是不懂这个诀窍;后来,毁在他手里的女人实在太多了,因此,尽管汤姆心眼很好,而且是个公道的伙计,后来我也不得不跟他拆伙了。"

"那么,在做买卖当中,你是不是发现你的经营方法比汤姆的强呢?"谢尔贝问道。

"当然口罗,先生,当然是这样。我跟你说,我总是尽量避免一些令人不愉快的场面;比方说卖孩子——我就先把孩子的娘支使开——你要知道,眼不见为净,等到生米已经煮成熟饭,她们也就无可奈何,慢慢自然就惯啦。本来嘛,黑人不像白人,白人从小就受到这种教养;觉得一个人保全自己的老婆孩子是天经地义的事。你要知道,从小受过训练的黑奴可不会存这种指望,所以,事情也就好办得多了。"

"这样说来,我家的黑奴可没有从小受过训练。"谢尔贝先生道。

"我看也不是,你们肯塔基人都把黑奴惯坏了。你们倒是出于一片好心,可是归根结底,这对他们没有什么好处。你要知道,一个黑奴一辈子都得颠沛流离。今天卖给张三,明天卖给李四,后天,天晓得会卖给什么人,给他灌输各式各样的想法和指望,把他娇生惯养,对他来说并没有什么好,因为往后那种颠沛流离的苦日子,他就越发受不了啦,我敢说,你家宅子里的黑奴只要换个环境,就会愁眉苦脸的;而地里的黑奴在这种环境里却会像着了魔欢呼歌唱。哎,谢尔贝先生,人嘛多少总有点往自己脸上贴金,我相信我对待黑奴也就算是好的啦。"

"这就叫'知足常乐'啊!"谢尔贝先生略微耸耸肩膀,显然有点厌恶地说。

双方暗自盘算了半晌之后,海利先开口说,"好,你说怎么办吧。"

"我还得考虑考虑,跟内人商量一下,"谢尔贝先生答道,"同时,海利,如果

ter carried on in the quiet way you speak of, you'd best not let your business in this neighborhood be known. It will get out among my boys, and it will not be a particularly quiet business getting away any of my fellows, if they know it, I'll promise you."

"Oh! certainly, by all means, mum! of course, But I'll tell you, I'm in a devil of a hurry, and shall want to know, as soon as possible, what I may depend on," said he, rising and putting on his overcoat.

"Well, call up this evening, between six and seven, and you shall have my answer," said Mr. Shelby, and the trader bowed himself out of the apartment.

"I'd like to have been able to kick the fellow down the steps," said he to himself, as he saw the door fairly closed, "with his impudent assurance; but he knows how much he has me at advantage. If anybody had ever said to me that I should sell Tom down south to one of those rascally traders, I should have said, 'Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing?' And now it must come, for aught I see. And Eliza's child, too! I know that I shall have some fuss with wife about that; and, for that matter, about Tom, too. So much for being in debt, - heigho! The fellow sees his advantage, and means to push it."

Perhaps the mildest form of the system of slavery is to be seen in the State of Kentucky. The general prevalence of agricultural pursuits of a quiet and gradual nature, not requiring those periodic seasons of hurry and pressure that are called for in the business of more southern districts, makes the task of the negro a more healthful and reasonable one; while the master, content with a more gradual style of acquisition, has not those temptations to hard-heartedness which always overcome frail human nature when the prospect of sudden and rapid gain is weighed in the balance, with no heavier counterpoise than the interests of the helpless and unprotected.

Whoever visits some estates there, and witnesses the good-humored indulgence of some masters and mistresses, and the affectionate loyalty of some slaves, might be tempted to dream the oft-fabled poetic legend of a patriarchal institution, and all that; but over and above the scene there broods a portentous shadow - the shadow of law. So long as the law considers all these human beings, with beating hearts and living affections, only as so many things belonging to a master, - so long as the failure, or misfortune, or imprudence, or death of the kindest owner, may cause them any day to exchange a life of kind protection and indulgence for one of hopeless misery and toil, -

你想像你刚才说的那样人不知、鬼不觉地把事情办得熨熨帖帖的话,那你最好别在邻近一带泄漏这个消息,不然,事情会传到我家仆人的耳朵里。他们要是知道了,那要弄走我家一个人可不会是一件太平的事。我把话说在前头。"

"那当然,我一定一字不提,一定的。不过我得跟你声明一句,我的时间很紧迫,希望能够尽快得到你的回信。"海利一面说,一面站起身来披上大衣。

"好,那么你今天晚上六点到七点之间来听回音吧,"谢尔贝先生答道。随后,那黑奴贩子便欠身告辞了。

"我恨不得把这个放肆的家伙一脚踢下楼去,"房门关上之后,谢尔贝自言自语道,"可是,他知道在我身上有机可乘啊。往日里,谁要是劝我把汤姆卖给南方那些无赖的黑奴贩子,我一定会回答他说,'你的仆人算什么,不过是一条狗,岂肯做这等事?'"(见《旧约圣经·列王纪下》第八章第十三节。)可是现在,我却束手无策,恐怕非把他卖掉不可了。唉,还有伊丽莎的孩子呢!我知道太太一定不肯依我;就是汤姆她也不会答应啊。想不到债务竟把我逼到这一步田地——咳!这家伙看见有机可乘,竟然还想得寸进尺呢。"

奴隶制表现得最温和的地方恐怕要算肯塔基州了。该州农业劳动一般较为稳定、和缓,不像南边各州那样,农忙季节特别忙碌和紧张;因此,该州黑奴的劳动也就较为合理,不是那样叫人喘不过气来;另一方面,庄园主们也尚能满足于较为和缓的营利方式,没有暴利的引诱——人的本性原是脆弱的,遇到有暴利可图,又只要牺牲一些孤苦无告者的利益就可达到目的时,往往容易屈服于利欲的引诱,心肠变得狠毒起来。

谁要是到肯塔基州某些庄园去参观一下,亲眼看到庄园上主人和主母那么和蔼可亲,黑奴们又那么忠心耿耿,也许容易引起幻想,联想起相传那些富于诗意的氏族社会的传奇来。可是在这幅画面上,却笼罩着一层森严可怕的阴影——法律的阴影。只要法律把所有这些心脏在跳动、具有活生生的感情的黑人当作奴隶主的私人财产看待;那么,即使是心肠最善良的奴隶主,只要一旦破了产、失了足、落了难或一命归阴,他家的黑奴就随时会失去有保障、受宠幸的生活,而坠入悲惨和

so long it is impossible to make anything beautiful or desirable in the best regulated administration of slavery.

Mr. Shelby was a fair average kind of man, good-natured and kindly, and disposed to easy indulgence of those around him, and there had never been a lack of anything which might contribute to the physical comfort of the negroes on his estate. He had, however, speculated largely and quite loosely; had involved himself deeply, and his notes to a large amount had come into the hands of Haley; and this small piece of information is the key to the preceding conversation.

Now, it had so happened that, in approaching the door, Eliza had caught enough of the conversation to know that a trader was making offers to her master for somebody.

She would gladly have stopped at the door to listen, as she came out; but her mistress just then calling, she was obliged to hasten away.

Still she thought she heard the trader make an offer for her boy; - could she be mistaken? Her heart swelled and throbbed, and she involuntarily strained him so tight that the little fellow looked up into her face in astonishment.

"Eliza, girl, what ails you to-day?" said her mistress, when Eliza had upset the wash-pitcher, knocked down the workstand, and finally was abstractedly offering her mistress a long nightgown in place of the silk dress she had ordered her to bring from the wardrobe.

Eliza started. "O, missis!" she said, raising her eyes; then, bursting into tears, she sat clown in a chair, and began sobbing.

"Why, Eliza, child! what ails you?" said her mistress.

"O! missis, missis," said Eliza, "there's been a trader talking with master in the parlor! I heard him."

"Well, silly child, suppose there has."

"O, missis, do you suppose master would sell my Hart'y?" And the poor creature threw herself into a chair, and sobbed convulsively.

"Sell him! No, you foolish girl! You know your master never deals with those southern traders, and never means to sell any of his servants, as long as they behave well. Why, you silly child, who do you think would want to buy your Harry? Do you think all the world are set on him as you are, you goosie? Come, cheer up, and hook my dress. There now, put my back hair up in that pretty

劳苦的境遇。只要这种状况存在一天,那么,即使在奴隶制施行得最完善的地方,黑奴的处境也不可能达到美满或令人向往的境界。

谢尔贝先生是一个普普通通的人,为人和蔼可亲,待人接物颇为宽厚。他庄园上的黑人从来没有在物质生活方面感到什么匮乏。然而,由于他大量地、无节制地做投机生意,结果弄得债台高筑。他的债务很大一部分落到了海利手里。这情况就是前面那段对话的线索。

事有凑巧,伊丽莎适才经过客厅门口时,听到了他们的谈话,大致已听出是一个黑奴贩子在跟东家讲价钱买什么人。

她从客厅出去后,原想在门口再听下去,但是偏偏主母这时叫她,因此不得不赶快走开。

可是,她记得仿佛听见那黑奴贩子要买她的孩子——是不是她听错了呢?她神经非常紧张,心头怦怦乱跳,一面情不自禁地把哈利紧紧搂在怀中,弄得那小家伙十分惊讶,不由抬起眼睛来直盯着她看。

"伊丽莎,姑娘啊,你今天是怎么啦?"主母问道,因为她看见伊丽莎打翻了盛洗脸水的水壶,碰倒了做针线活的小桌子,最后,当她要伊丽莎从衣橱里替她找一件绸衣裳时,伊丽莎却心不在焉地递了一件睡衣给她。

伊丽莎吃了一惊。"啊,太太?"她抬起头来叫了一声。接着,就倒在一张椅子上,哇的一声哭起来了。

"喂,伊丽莎,好孩子,你这是怎么啦?"主母问道。

"啊呀!太太,"伊丽莎答道,"有一个黑奴贩子在客厅里和老爷谈话,他说的话我全部听见了。"

"咳,傻孩子,这又有什么值得大惊小怪的呢?"

"太太,你想老爷会不会把我的哈利卖给人家啊?"可怜的伊丽莎又伏在椅子上全身抽搐地呜咽起来了。

"卖给人家?不会的,傻丫头!你明明知道,老爷是从来不跟南方那些黑奴贩子打交道的,也从来不打算卖掉家里哪一个佣人,只要大家循规蹈矩就行。喂,傻孩子,你想谁要买你的哈利啊?你以为是世界上的人都像你那样疼爱哈利吗,傻丫头?好啦,打起精神来,替我把衣服扣上

braid you learnt the other day, and don't go listening at doors any more."

"Well, but, missis, you never would give your consent - to - to

"Nonsense, child! to be sure, I shouldn't. What do you talk so for? I would as soon have one of my own children sold. But really, Eliza, you are getting altogether too proud of that little fellow. A man can't put his nose into the door, but you think he must be coming to buy him."

Reassured by her mistress' confident tone, Eliza proceeded nimbly and adroitly with her toilet, laughing at her own fears, as she proceeded.

Mrs. Shelby was a woman of a high class, both intellectually and morally. To that natural magnanimity and generosity of mind which one often marks as characteristic of the women of Kentucky, she added high moral and religious sensibility and principle, carried out with great energy and ability into practical results. Her husband, who made no professions to any particular religious character, nevertheless revered and respected the consistency of hers, and stood, perhaps, a little in awe of her opinion. Certain it was that he gave her unlimited scope in all her benevolent efforts for the comfort, instruction, and improvement of her servants, though he never took any decided part in them himself. In fact, if not exactly a believer in the doctrine of the efficiency of the extra good works of saints, he really seemed somehow or other to fancy that his wife had piety and benevolence enough for two - to indulge a shadowy expectation of getting into heaven through her superabundance of qualities to which he made no particular pretension.

The heaviest load on his mind, after his conversation with the trader, lay in the foreseen necessity of breaking to his wife the arrangement contemplated, meeting the importunities and opposition which he knew he should have reason to encounter.

Mrs. Shelby, being entirely ignorant of her husband's embarrassments, and knowing only the general kindness of his temper, had been quite sincere in the entire incredulity with which she had met Eliza's suspicions. In fact, she dismissed the matter from her mind, without a second thought; and being occupied in preparations for an evening visit, it passed out of her thoughts entirely.

II The Mother

Eliza had been brought up by her mistress, from girlhood, as a petted and indulged favorite.

吧。这才对啊,把我后面的头发往上梳,梳成你前几天新学会的那种漂亮发髻吧,下回可别再到门口去偷听人家说话啦。”

“唔,可是,太太,你决不会答应——把——把——”

“废话,孩子,当然不会。你干吗要说这种话呢?我宁愿把自己的孩子卖掉,也不肯卖掉你的哈利啊。不过说真的,伊丽莎,你未免太宝贝那小东西了,只要有个人到家里来,你就以为人家是来买你的哈利的。”

主母虽有把握的口吻使伊丽莎放下了心,于是她就敏捷而灵巧地替主母梳起头来;她一面梳,一面不禁对自己刚才的疑虑暗自觉得好笑。

无论就其智慧或德性而言,谢尔贝太太都称得上是个高贵的妇人。她不但天生气度宽宏(这是肯塔基妇女共有的特征),而且具有崇高的道德原则和宗教信仰,并且不遗余力地把它们贯彻到实际行动中去。她丈夫本人虽然不信教,却很尊重她坚定不移的宗教信仰,并且对她颇为敬畏。他妻子心地慈悲,力求改善仆人们的待遇、教育和灵性修养;他自己虽然从不明显地参与这些事情,却也绝对不加阻拦。事实上,尽管他并不完全相信圣徒们多余的功德可以超度其他罪人这种教义的效果,实际上却不知怎的形成了一种幻觉,觉得他妻子的虔诚和善心足够他们夫妇两人受用的——因而暗暗抱着这种指望:自己虽然德浅福薄,或许可以依靠妻子绰绰有余的德行升入天堂。

和那黑奴贩子谈完话之后,谢尔贝先生心头负担沉重:他明知非把这种打算告诉妻子不可,而且会不可避免地遭到她的反对和苦苦哀求。

谢尔贝太太只晓得丈夫平日为人厚道,但对他所处的窘境却一无所知;因此当她她对伊丽莎的疑虑表示完全不信时,态度确实十分严肃。事实上,她根本没把这件事记在心里;而且,由于忙于准备晚上到人家去做客,早已把它忘得一干二净了。

第二章 母亲

伊丽莎从小由主母抚养成人,一向颇受宠爱。

The traveller in the south must often have remarked that peculiar air of refinement, that softness of voice and manner, which seems in many cases to be a particular gift to the quadroon and mulatto women, These natural graces in the quadroon are often united with beauty of the most dazzling kind, and in almost every case with a personal appearance prepossessing and agreeable. Eliza, such as we have described her, is not a fancy sketch, but taken from remembrance, as we saw her, years ago, in Kentucky. Safe under the protecting care of her mistress, Eliza had reached maturity without those temptations which make beauty so fatal an inheritance to a slave. She had been married to a bright and talented young mulatto man, who was a slave on a neighboring estate, and bore the name of George Harris.

This young man had been hired out by his master to work in a bagging factory, where his adroitness and ingenuity caused him to be considered the first hand in the place. He had invented a machine for the cleaning of the hemp, which, considering the education and circumstances of the inventor, displayed quite as much mechanical genius as Whitney's cotton-gin.

He was possessed of a handsome person and pleasing manners, and was a general favorite in the factory. Nevertheless, as this young man was in the eye of the law not a man, but a thing, all these superior qualifications were subject to the control of a vulgar, narrow-minded, tyrannical master. This same gentleman, having heard of the fame of George's invention, took a ride over to the factory, to see what this intelligent chattel had been about. He was received with great enthusiasm by the employer, who congratulated him on possessing so valuable a slave.

He was waited upon over the factory, shown the machinery by George, who, in high spirits, talked so fluently, held himself so erect, looked so handsome and manly, that his master began to feel an uneasy consciousness of inferiority. What business had his slave to be marching round the country, inventing machines, and holding up his head among gentlemen? He'd soon put a stop to it. He'd take him back, and put him to hoeing and digging, and "see if he'd step about so smart." Accordingly, the manufacturer and all hands concerned were astounded when he suddenly demanded George's wages, and announced his intention of taking him home.

"But, Mr. Harris," remonstrated the manufacturer, "isn't this rather sudden?"

"What if it is? - isn't the man mule?"

"We would be willing, sir, to increase the rate of

去过南方的人一定常常留意到,那里有很多第一代和第二代混血女子,天生举止娴雅,谈吐温存。而且,在这种天然仪态之外,往往还配上惊心动魄的美貌;可以说,几乎每一个混血女子都生得秀色宜人。我们前面描绘过的伊丽莎,并不是一个虚构的形象;而是作者从记忆中挑选出来的、多年前在肯塔基州亲眼见过的一个混血姑娘。天生丽质对一个奴隶来说,本是个致命伤,因为这往往会引起许多诱惑;但伊丽莎由于主母的爱护和关怀,总算得以平安无事地长大成人。她已经和邻近庄园上一个名叫乔治·哈里斯的黑奴结了婚。哈里斯是一个聪明伶俐、颇有才华的第一代混血儿。

他的东家把这年轻人租借给一家麻袋厂,在那里做工。由于生性灵巧,技术熟练,他被公认为全厂工人中的第一把好手。他曾经发明过一部苧麻洗涤剂,如果就这位发明家所受的教育及其境遇而言,足以证明他在机械方面的天才并不亚于发明轧棉机的惠德尼氏。(肯塔基州的确有一个黑奴发明了一部类似的机器。)

哈里斯生得一表人才,为人和蔼可亲,因此在厂里颇得人心。然而,从法律观点来看,这小子却不能算作一个人,而只是一件商品;他所具备的这些优越条件,全都掌握在一个庸俗、狭隘、强横霸道的东家手里。这位先生听到乔治所发明的机器的名声后,就驾车到麻袋厂去,想看看他那聪明的奴才究竟搞了些什么名堂。厂主热情地招待了他,并祝贺他拥有一个如此有价值的奴隶。

乔治侍候东家参观了全厂以及厂里的机器设备。他一时高兴,谈起话来滔滔不绝,站在那里显得仪表堂堂,英姿挺拔。这不免有点使他的东家感到局促不安,自惭形秽。他的奴才有什么权利这样到处乱跑,发明机器。在主人面前趾高气扬呢?他决定立刻制止这种现象,把乔治带回庄园去,叫他在田里刨土掘地,“看他还这么大摇大摆得成不?”当厂主和乔治的伙伴们突然听到他的东家索取乔治的工资,并声言要把乔治带回庄园去时,自然都会感到惊讶不已。

“可是,哈里斯先生,”厂主抗议道,“这未免有点太突然了吧?”

“突然又怎么样?难道他不是我的人吗?”

“先生,我们愿意提高他的租金啊。”