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美国总统青少年时代
Childhoods of the Presidents

詹姆斯·门罗

JAMES MONROE

【美】小阿瑟·M·史勒辛格 主编

【美】哈尔·马科维奇 著

席娟 译



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詹姆斯·莫罗

JAMES MORONE

THE ROAD TO AMERICA'S
MOTION PICTURE
CENSORSHIP



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★ *Introduction* ★

Alexis de Tocqueville began his great work *Democracy in America* with a discourse on childhood. If we are to understand the prejudices, the habits and the passions that will rule a man's life, Tocqueville said, we must watch the baby in his mother's arms; we must see the first images that the world casts upon the mirror of his mind; we must hear the first words that awaken his sleeping powers of thought. "The entire man," he wrote, "is, so to speak, to be seen in the cradle of the child."

That is why these books on the childhoods of the American presidents are so much to the point. And, as our history shows, a great variety of childhoods can lead to the White House. The record confirms the ancient adage that every American boy, no matter how unpromising his beginnings, can aspire to the presidency. Soon, one hopes, the adage will be extended to include every American girl.

All our presidents thus far have been white males who, within the limits of their gender, reflect the diversity of American life. They were born in nineteen of our states; eight of the last thirteen presidents were born west of the Mississippi. Of all our presidents, Abraham Lincoln had the

least promising childhood, yet he became our greatest president. Oddly enough, presidents who are children of privilege sometimes feel an obligation to reform society in order to give children of poverty a better break. And, with Lincoln the great exception, presidents who are children of poverty sometimes feel that there is no need to reform a society that has enabled them to rise from privation to the summit.

Does schooling make a difference? Harry S. Truman, the only twentieth-century president never to attend college, is generally accounted a near-great president. Actually nine— more than one fifth—of our presidents never went to college at all, including such luminaries as George Washington, Andrew Jackson and Grover Cleveland. But, Truman aside, all the non-college men held the highest office before the twentieth century, and, given the increasing complexity of life, a college education will unquestionably be a necessity in the twenty-first century.

Every reader of this book, girls included, has a right to aspire to the presidency. As you survey the childhoods of those who made it, try to figure out the qualities that brought them to the White House. I would suggest that among those qualities are ambition, determination, discipline, education— and luck.

—ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER, JR.

序

亚历克西斯·德·托克维尔以讲述人的童年作为他的巨著《美国的民主》的开始。托克维尔说，如果我们想理解支配一个人生活的偏见、习惯和爱好，我们必须观察他还是襁褓中的婴孩这一时期的情况；我们必须审视世界投射到他心灵上的第一个印记；我们必须聆听唤醒他那沉睡中的思想力量的第一句话。他写道：“可以说，从婴孩时期的摇篮中将可以了解整个人。”

这就是为什么这套关于美国总统童年的书如此重要。另外，正如历史所展示的，尽管童年时代的经历多种多样，却都能引导一个人走上通往白宫的道路。历史的记录验证了一句古话：每个美国男孩，不管早期看起来前途多么无望，都能够立志成为总统。人们还希望，这句古话所涵盖的范围不久将扩展，把每个美国女孩也包括在内。

迄今为止，所有的美国总统都是白人男性，他们在有限的性别范围之内，反映了美国生活的多样性。他们出生于合众国的19个州；最后13位当中有8位出生在密西西比河西部。在所有的总统当中，亚伯拉罕·林肯的童年最显得前途无望，然而他却成为美国历史上最伟大的总统。非常奇怪的是，童年生活优裕的总统有时却有一种责任感，进行社会改革，给家庭贫苦的孩子创造更好的机会。而另一方面，除林肯是一个特例之外，出身贫苦的总统有时却感到，对于使他们从穷困的底层发展到事业颠峰的社会，没有进行改革的必要。

学校教育重要吗？哈里·S·杜鲁门是仅有的一位从未上过大学的20世纪的美国总统，然而却被普遍认为接近最伟大的总统。实际上，我们的总统当中有9位——占全部的五分之一还多——从未上过大学，包括乔治·华盛顿、安德鲁·杰克逊以及格罗弗·克利夫兰这些杰出的人物。但是，除杜鲁门以外，所有这些没上过大学却担任了总统这一最显要职务的人都生活在20世纪以前。由于社会生活变得越来越复杂，大学教育毫无疑问将成为21世纪美国总统的必备条件。

该书的每位读者，包括女孩在内，都有权立志当总统。你们在探讨这些总统的童年时，要努力去领悟是什么品质使他们当上了白宫的主人。我在这里做一提示，在这些品质当中包括志向、决心、纪律、教育——当然还有机会。

——小阿瑟·M·史勒辛格



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Times that Try Men's Souls

The Third Virginia Regiment limped south through New Jersey along with some 3,000 other troops in the Continental army. The Continental soldiers, under the leadership of General George Washington, had recently been chased from New York by the British. It was December 1776 — just six months after the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia. Now, with Washington's troops in full retreat, it appeared that the *colonists'* dream of independence from Great Britain would soon end.



第一章

考验人灵魂的时期

弗吉尼亚军第三团与其他 3 000 多名北美大陆军步履艰难地穿过新泽西州，向南撤退。乔治·华盛顿^①统帅下的大陆军不久前受到英军追击，被迫离开纽约。这是在 1776 年 12 月，北美大陆会议在费城通过《独立宣言》^②仅仅过了六个月的时间。而此时，随着华盛顿大军的全面撤退，北美人民脱离大不列颠统治，争取民族独立的梦想似乎将成泡影。

Emanuel Leutze's *Washington Crossing the Delaware* is one of the most famous images of the American Revolution, but many of its details are historically inaccurate. Among them: the inclusion of James Monroe, the officer holding the flag. Monroe actually crossed the Delaware River the day before the main body of Washington's troops.

依曼纽尔·鲁尔兹的油画“华盛顿抢渡特拉华河”是刻画北美独立战争光辉形象最有名的一幅作品，但作品中有很多细节与史实不符。其中，画里有手持美国国旗站在华盛顿身后的詹姆斯·门罗中尉。而事实上詹姆斯·门罗比华盛顿大军早一天渡河。

注：①（1732-1799）生于弗吉尼亚威斯特摩兰县，美国第一位总统，任期 1789-1797。

② 1776 年 6 月北美大陆会议在费城通过《独立宣言》，正式宣布北美大陆脱离不列颠的统治。

Still, fighting spirit remained high in the ranks of the Third Virginia. Unlike many of the other regiments that made up the Continental army, the Third Virginia had been together for nearly a year. The Third Virginia was a rifle regiment, and its members prided themselves on their keen eyes and ability to hit their targets. The 600 soldiers of the Third Virginia had fought valiantly in the Battle of New York, meeting a force of 1,500 redcoats — as British soldiers were called—head-on in an area between the Harlem and Hudson Rivers known as Harlem Heights. Although greatly outnumbered, the Virginians had held their ground until reinforcements arrived and drove the British off. Harlem Heights was one of the few *skirmishes* won by the colonists in the Battle of New York. It proved that Americans could outfight the British on the field of battle.



然而，弗吉尼亚军第三团仍然斗志昂扬。与大陆军中许多其他的部队不同的是，第三团此时组建已将近一年。第三团是一个来福枪团，让其士兵引以为豪的是，他们个个目光敏锐，弹无虚发。在纽约一战中，第三团600名全体官兵浴血奋战，在哈得逊河与哈莱姆河间的哈莱姆高地迎击1500多名“龙虾军”^①，虽然敌众我寡，第三团坚守阵地，力抗顽敌，终于与后来赶到的后援部队一同击退了英军。哈莱姆高地之战是纽约战役中殖民地军队赢得的为数不多的小规模战斗之一，它充分证明北美军队是完全可以战胜英军的。

Many American units of the Revolutionary War, including James Monroe's Third Virginia Regiment, weren't nearly as well outfitted as this Continental soldier. But, as the British would discover, the ragtag Americans were a determined foe.

独立战争中的部队，包括詹姆斯·门罗所在的弗吉尼亚军第三团，装备远远不及图中的大陆军士兵。但是英军后来发现，这些装备寒酸的北美士兵却成了他们的死敌。

注：① 对身穿红色军服的英军的戏称。



And yet, there was no question that the Continental army had failed to live up to Washington's expectations. Other American regiments had run from the fight, much to the general's dismay. From New York, Washington split his troops, sending some north to halt the British advance into upstate New York while taking others south with him to throw a blockade in front of the redcoats in New Jersey.

But Washington's troops had failed to stop the British in New Jersey. Now, the Continental army was in retreat again, heading further south and then across the Delaware River to make camp in Pennsylvania. One of the soldiers trudging south with the Third Virginia Regiment was a young lieutenant named James Monroe. Although he had just turned 18, James was a valued leader in the regiment. He'd acted bravely at Harlem Heights, helping hold the regiment together after two officers, Major Andrew Leitch and Colonel Thomas Knowlton, had been killed in battle.

James Monroe later wrote about that march into Pennsylvania. In particular, he revealed how he continued to be inspired by the gallant figure of George Washington leading the ragtag yet brave Continental army:



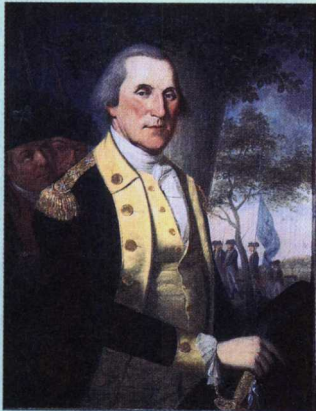
可是很显然，大陆军在纽约战役中的表现与总司令华盛顿的期望相去甚远。有几个团甚至临阵逃脱，让华盛顿大失所望。无奈，总司令只能兵分两路，一路北上切断英军前往纽约腹地的通道，另一路由他本人率领向南进入新泽西州阻截英军。

但是华盛顿所率大军并未能够拦住英军，大陆军被迫再次撤退，向南越过特拉华河^①，最后驻扎在宾夕法尼亚境内。第三军团南行队伍中有一个名叫詹姆斯·门罗的年轻中尉，年仅18岁的他已是团中一个难得的领军之才。在哈莱姆高地一役中，他奋勇作战，在少校安德鲁·雷奇和上校托马斯·诺尔顿阵亡后率领第三团士兵守住了高地。

詹姆斯·门罗后来写到那次宾夕法尼亚撤退时，特别提到他是如何被乔治·华盛顿的英勇形像所鼓舞。在他的率领下，大陆军虽然处境狼狈不堪，却仍奋勇作战。

注：① 界于新泽西州与宾夕法尼亚州的一条河流，1776年华盛顿大陆军在纽约州失利后曾渡河撤入宾夕法尼亚州。

I saw him in my earliest youth in the retreat through Jersey at the head of a small band, or rather, in its rear, for he was always near the enemy, and his countenance and manner made an impression on me which time can never efface. A lieutenant then in the Third Virginia Regiment, I happened to be on guard at Newark, and I counted the force under his immediate command by *platoons* as it passed me, which amounted to less than 3,000 men. A deportment so firm, so dignified, so exalted, but yet so modest and composed, I have never seen in any other person.



Camped along the Delaware River, the Third Virginia Regiment was hardly in a condition to fight again. Since skirmishing with the British in New Jersey, some 400 members of the regiment had been wounded or fallen ill in the icy winter conditions. Of the 17 officers in the Third Virginia, just 5 of them, including Lieutenant Monroe, were considered fit for duty. There was barely enough food for





那次见到华盛顿司令时我也还在乳臭未干的年龄。当时部队正穿过新泽西州向后撤退。他走在一小队人马前面，更准确的说应该是后面，因为他的位置总是很接近敌人。他的表情和举止给我留下了不可磨灭的印象。当时我在弗吉尼亚第三团中担任中尉，部队到达纽沃克时刚好受命放哨。华盛顿当即命我清点人数，我数了数，总共不到3 000人。他刚毅威严，令人敬畏，同时又谦逊温和，沉着镇定，这种气质是我在任何其他人身上所不曾看到过的。

“A deportment so firm,so dignified,so exalted,but yet so modest and composed,I have never seen in any other person,” James Monroe would recall of his fellow Virginian George Washington during the Continental army’s retreat through New Jersey in 1776.

1776年大陆军撤往新泽西州时，詹姆斯·门罗回忆起他的同伴——来自弗吉尼亚的乔治·华盛顿：“他刚毅威严，令人敬畏，同时又谦逊温和，沉着镇定，这种气质是我在任何其他人身上所不曾看到过的。”

第三团在特拉华河畔扎营休整，毕竟他们当时的状况实在不适合继续作战。自从在新泽西州与英军交火以来，团里负伤以及由于严寒病倒的士兵不下400人。17名军官中，包括门罗中尉在内仅有5人还可以作战。雪上加霜的是，部队粮食短缺，官兵们衣着单薄，根本无法抵御严

寒。

