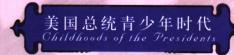
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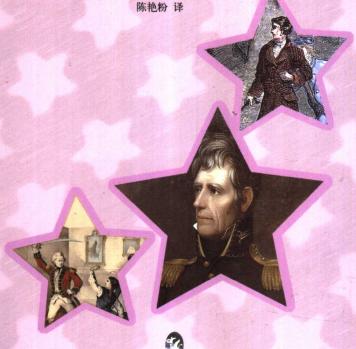
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安德鲁·杰克逊

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



安德鲁•杰克逊

Andrew Jackson

[美] 小阿瑟·M·史勒辛格 主编 [美] 丹尼尔·E·哈蒙 著 陈艳粉 译





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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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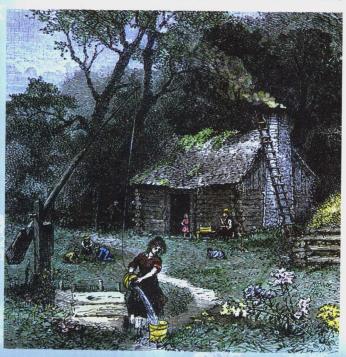
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A Child of the Frontier

In 1776, nine-year-old Andy Jackson stood in the village square, surrounded by his relatives and neighbors. Their attention was on him as he read the latest news



第一章

边疆的孩子

1776年, 九岁的安迪·杰克逊^①站在村里的空地上, 亲戚邻里围绕四周, 聆听他朗读从宾夕法尼亚州的费城传 来的最新消息。听众大多都是文盲, 他们定居在瓦克斯豪

Titled Carolina Home, this early illustration gives some idea of the hardships endured by settlers along the Waxhaws frontier of North and South Carolina. Andrew Jackson's childhood there was made even more difficult by the untimely death of his father.

该图题名为"卡罗来纳故乡"。这幅早期的插图展现了南卡罗来纳州和北卡罗来纳州的瓦克斯豪边塞地区居民们所承受的苦难。安德鲁·杰克逊的童年时代因父亲的早逝更加艰辛。

注:① 安德鲁•杰克逊的昵称是安迪。

from Philadelphia ,Pennsylvania.Most of the people listening to Andy couldn't read. They were all settlers living in"the Waxhaws," a *frontier* area on the border of North and South Carolina. They depended on a few people, often school-age children, to read aloud newspapers brought on horseback from large cities. The news was often weeks or months old by the time it arrived.

On this day,however,Andy wasn't just reading the news. He was reading an important new document,the Declaration of Independence.It had recently been adopted and published by American colonial leaders in Philadelphia. The settlers knew the Declaration was going to have a lasting,serious impact on their lives.It meant war against England.

At that time, life was already difficult for young Andrew Jackson. His parents were Scotch-Irish *immigrants* from Carrickfergus, a seaport on the rocky coast of Northern Ireland. Most researchers think the Jacksons arrived in the American colonies in 1765. Here, they hoped to find a more promising future than poor people could expect in their homeland. Andy's father was named Andrew, his mother Elizabeth.

地区,也就是南卡罗来纳州和北卡罗来纳州交界的边塞地区。少数几个人,更多是学龄儿童朗读报纸让他们获取外界信息。用马从大城市驮回来的报纸到他们手里时,新闻往往滞后数星期或数个月了。

然而这一天,安迪读的不仅是报纸上的新闻,还有一份重要的新文件——《独立宣言》①,费城的殖民统治者刚刚批准通过这一宣言并且公开发布。大家知道这份宣言将对他们未来的生活产生持久而深刻的影响,它意味着即将发生抗英战争。

对于当时年幼的安德鲁·杰克逊来说,生活已是十分艰辛。他父母是苏格兰—爱尔兰移民,来自乱石叠嶂的北爱尔兰沿海—带的卡里克弗格斯海港。绝大多数研究者认为杰克逊—家是在1765年到达北美殖民地的。他们希望未来的生活比家乡的穷人们所能期望的更好。安迪的父亲叫安德鲁,母亲叫伊丽莎白。

注: ① 《独立宣言》是英属北美殖民地人民宣布独立的纲领性文件。 1775 年北美殖民地爆发了独立战争。1776 年 7 月 4 日第二届 大陆会议通过了《独立宣言》,该日后来被定为美国国庆日。 资产阶级民主派杰斐逊是该宣言的主要起草人。宣言宣布, 一切人生而平等,上帝赋予他们诸如生存、自由和追求幸福 等权利。

The details of Andy's birth are cloaked in mystery. No records are available to prove where in America the Jacksons' ship landed. They may have arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, the colonies' major southern seaport, or at one of the northern ports, perhaps in Pennsylvania. In addition, no birth certificate for Andrew Jackson exists. Historians have argued about Jackson's birthplace since he became a national hero during the War of 1812. It was most likely South Carolina—especially since Jackson himself said he was born there.

Most researchers agree that Andy's young parents were living in the Waxhaws settlement at the time of his birth. "Waxhaw" was the name of a Native American tribe that once roamed the area. The controversy over Andy's birth centers on the question of where in the Waxhaws, exactly, the cabin in which he was born was situated. (A few historians slyly suggest the cabin may have been right on the border between the two Carolinas, so the question of his birth state would depend on precisely where the bed was placed inside the home.)

What is known for certain is that soon after coming to America, the Jacksons traveled far inland to the Waxhaws, 160 miles from Charleston. Several of Elizabeth Jackson's sisters already had settled there with their husbands and families. They were prospering by the time the Jacksons arrived. But Andrew and Elizabeth found that the best land in the area had already been taken, so they settled

安迪出生的详细情况至今还笼罩在一团迷雾中*没有任何历史记载能说明杰克逊一家乘船抵达美国时靠岸的具体地点。他们登岸的地点可能是在殖民地南部的一个主要海港——南卡罗来纳州的查尔斯顿,也可能是宾夕法尼亚州北部地区的一个港口,也没有任何资料可以证明安德鲁的出生情况。在1812年战争期间,安德鲁成为国家英雄。此后,他的出生地就成了历史学家们争议的话题。他的出生地很有可能是在南卡罗来纳州,尤其是因为杰克逊本人说他出生在那里。

大多数研究者认为安迪出生时他父母就生活在瓦克斯豪殖民区,瓦克斯豪是曾在这一带游移的美国土著部落的名字。对安迪出生地争执的焦点是他出生在瓦克斯豪的哪个地方,确切说是他出生的小木屋究竟位于哪个位置。(少数历史学家甚至巧妙地设想,这个小屋可能恰好位于南卡罗来纳州和北卡罗来纳州的交界处,那么他的出生地究竟是哪一州,就得看屋里的床摆放在什么方位了)。

目前已经确认的一点是, 杰克逊一家来到美国不久后就长途跋涉横穿内陆来到瓦克斯豪地区, 这儿距离查尔斯顿有一百六十英里。此前, 伊丽莎白·杰克逊几个姐妹及家人都已经定居在该地区, 杰克逊一家到来时, 这些姐妹们都家业兴旺。但是, 安德鲁和伊丽莎白发现该地区最



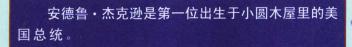
Andrew Jackson was the first American president born in a log cabin.

on an unattractive plot of 200 acres beside a creek near the Catawba River. It is believed the Jacksons did not own the land, but leased it in hopes of someday being able to buy it.

Andy never knew his father. Three weeks before Andy's birth on March 15, 1767, the elder Andrew Jackson died unexpectedly. Possibly he was killed in an accident, but some say he simply worked himself to death clearing the land and trying to start a farm in the clay-soiled, pinethick wilderness. Historians believe he was not yet 30 when he died.

Elizabeth realized she could not keep up the fledgling farm with her small sons, Hugh and Robert, and the newborn infant Andrew. The Jacksons were forced to move into the nearby home of their cousins, the William Crawford family. Mrs. Crawford was in poor health, so Elizabeth took over much of the housework.

Thus, Andy Jackson began life in a household where he was almost an outsider. The Jacksons were made welcome by their relatives—indeed, Elizabeth became indispensable in managing the home. But it was a meager start. At a very young age, Andy learned that if he were to make something of his life, he would have no family fortune on which to build. He would have to rely on timself.



好的土地已经被人占用,于是他们就定居在一块200英亩不起眼的空地上,这块土地离卡托巴河不远,一条小溪从旁边流过。人们认为杰克逊一家并没有真正地拥有那块土地,只是把它租赁下来,期望有朝一日能把它买下来。

安迪从未见过父亲。安迪出生于1767年3月15日,就在他出生前三个星期,他的父亲老安德鲁·杰克逊就意外地离开了人世。他可能死于一场事故,但也有人说他尽全力要把茂密松林中的一片黏性土壤开垦成一块农田,以致于劳累而死,历史学家们认为他死时还不到三十岁。

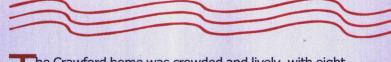
带着尚且年幼的儿子体、罗伯特以及刚出生不久的安德鲁,伊丽莎白知道她根本就耕种不了这一片尚未完全开垦的农田。杰克逊一家迫不得已搬到了他们的堂亲威廉·克罗福特一家的附近。克罗福特太太身体不好,于是伊丽莎白就接管了许多家务。

因此,安迪·杰克逊一家开始居家度日时几乎还是一个外来者。当然,他们还是受到了亲戚们的欢迎,全靠伊丽莎白操持家务,但只是这样开始还远远不够。安迪很小就懂得如果想有所作为,没有任何家业基础的他只有靠自





Mischievous Andy



he Crawford home was crowded and lively, with eight Crawford children for the Jackson boys to play with. The whole settlement was a busy place. Farmers grew

