

《英语世界》丛书

英汉对照

# 古今见闻小辑

Reading for Adults

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# Reading for Adults

by

R. D. Lewis

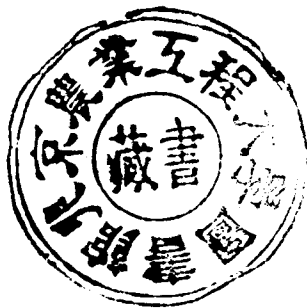
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## 内 容 提 要

本书由英国学者 R. D. 路易斯编写, 专供学习英语的成年人阅读。本书所译注的 41 篇短文是从原书 60 篇中精选的, 内容丰富, 题材广泛, 其中包括从古埃及金字塔到西班牙阿尔塔米拉山洞壁画; 从潜水艇探险到飞碟之谜; 从火山爆发到动物世界; 从雷达史话到青霉素产生等材料。此外还介绍了一些著名科学家、探险家、艺术家的小传, 以及电子计算机知识, 当今世界的能源开发、粮食危机等重大社会问题。

本书文字生动优美, 难易适度, 单词量循序渐进, 逐步增加, 读者在获得知识的同时, 就可以提高英语阅读与写作水平。

本书适合具有初级以上英语水平的读者阅读。

《英语世界》丛书

Gǔ Jīn Jiàn Wén Xiǎo Jí

古今见闻小辑

英 汉 对 照

董守信 靳梅琳 宁跃华 译注

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## 译者前言

《古今见闻小辑》(Reading for Adults) 是英国学者 R. D. 路易斯编写, 由英国朗曼公司在 70 年代出版, 专供学习英语的成年人阅读的读物。全书共三册, 每册有 20 篇短文。本书将这三册合辑为一, 分为三个部分加以翻译注释, 其中第一部分选了 15 篇, 第二部分选了 12 篇, 第三部分选了 14 篇。三个部分的文章都独立成篇, 单词量循序渐进, 逐步增加。

本书题材广泛: 从古埃及金字塔, 到西班牙阿尔塔米拉山洞壁画; 从潜水艇北冰洋探险到飞碟之谜; 从火山爆发到动物世界; 从雷达史话到青霉素的产生。此外, 还介绍了一些著名科学家、探险家和艺术家的小传, 以及电子计算机知识、当今世界的能源开发、粮食危机等重大社会问题。全书不仅内容丰富, 而且文字生动优美, 难易适宜, 读者既可获得知识, 又可提高英语阅读和写作水平。

本书第一部分由董守信译注, 天津外语学院邢惕夫教授审校; 第二部分由靳梅琳译注, 中国社会科学院研究生院汪培基教授审校; 第三部分由丁跃华译注, 南开大学李振华教授审校。

## (I)

### 1. HIDDEN TREASURE

Children and older people in every part of the world read *Treasure Island*<sup>1</sup> and enjoy its story of pirates and hidden treasure. Of course, Robert Louis Stevenson's story is not true, but like many other stories it has truth behind it. There is hidden treasure all over the world and, if you look in the right place, you can still find it.

When we speak of treasure, we usually think of Spanish galleons with their gold and their other rich cargoes from the New World<sup>2</sup> in the years between 1500 and 1800. The Indians of Central and South America had large quantities of gold and silver and precious stones. Every year the King of Spain sent a large number of galleons, sailing together, to bring these treasures back to Europe. Treasure worth perhaps \$ 10,000 million crossed the Atlantic in that way.

But the ships did not always return. There were two reasons for this: storms and pirates.

There have always been terrible hurricanes in the Caribbean.<sup>3</sup> These high winds sometimes caught the treasure ships and sent a number of them — or even all of them — to the bottom of the sea. The pirates wanted to capture the galleons with their precious cargoes and not to sink them. If they failed, and the ship sank, more treasure went to the sea-bed.

Some of the pirates hid the gold that they took from the galleons. Henry Morgan was one of them. He buried great amounts of gold and silver in many different places. During the 300 years since that time, people have found some of his treas-



## [1]

### 1. 埋藏的珍宝

世界各地的儿童和老年人凡是读过《金银岛》的，都喜欢这个海盗与埋藏珍宝的故事。当然，罗伯特·路易斯·史蒂文森的故事并不是真实的，可是和好多别的故事一样，它还是有真实背景的。世界上到处都有埋藏着的珍宝，如果你找对了地方，还是能发现一些的。

每当谈起珍宝的时候，我们常常会想起在 1500 年至 1800 年之间，从新大陆开出来的满载黄金和其他贵重物品的西班牙商船。那时，中、南美洲的印地安人拥有大量黄金、白银和宝石。西班牙国王每年派大批商船同时出海，把这些宝物运回欧洲。价值 100 亿美元的珍宝就这样横渡了大西洋。

但是，这些商船不一定都回得来。原因有两个：一是暴风，二是海盗。

在加勒比海的海面上时常出现强烈飓风。飓风常常袭击这些运珍宝的船，把部分甚至全部的船只都葬入海底。海盗只抢这些满载珍宝的船，而不想把它们弄沉。如果他们没能劫到手，而船却沉了下去，那么就会有更多的珍宝坠入海底。

有些海盗把他们从船上抢来的黄金藏了起来。亨利·摩根就是其中的一个。他把大量金银埋藏在许多不同的地方。在这之后的 300 年间，人们已经找到了他埋藏的一些珍宝，而且现在还在寻找其余的

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1. Treasure Island 《金银岛》，小说，是英国作家 R. L. 史蒂文森(1850—1894)的作品。 2. the New World 新世界，指美洲。 3. the Caribbean [kæri'bi:ən] 加勒比海，位于中美洲。

ure. But men are still looking for the rest of it.

No story of treasure is complete without a mention of El Dorado<sup>1</sup>. For hundreds of years people looked for El Dorado and told stories about it. Sir Walter Raleigh<sup>2</sup> believed that he would find it near the Orinoco river<sup>3</sup>; others expected to find it near the Amazon. They were looking for a country whose king lived in the great golden city of Manoa by a beautiful lake. The country was richer than men's most hopeful dreams.

Manoa was a dream, but perhaps the lake was not. 10,000 feet up in the Andes, the Chibcha Indians lived round a lake. They were rich in gold, and every year they dropped gold into the lake for their god. The Spaniards heard about this, and they sent soldiers to get the gold. When runners brought the news to the Chibcha, they put all the rest of their gold in the lake. Some people say that the gold and precious stones at the bottom of the lake are worth \$ 3,500 million.

Many people have tried to find the treasure of the Chibcha. The Spaniards themselves made thousands of Indians cut a hole in the side of the lake. As the water went down, they were able to find a small part of the gold. Nearer to our own time, British engineers tried to empty the lake through a tunnel, but earth quickly filled their tunnel, and they did not find any gold. Now some Americans are using powerful machines to try to draw the gold up, but it is slow and difficult work.

Do you want to find treasure? You may perhaps find some if you walk up and down the sand beside the sea. But it is better to read history books and to study the old records. Then you will know the places where the treasure ships sank. Probably you will want to go to the Caribbean or Florida. There you may find some of Morgan's treasure, or a single piece of gold, or just some strange fish. Does it matter?

那些。

每个讲述珍宝的故事没有不提到埃尔多拉多这个地方的。几百年来人们曾经寻找过这个地方，也讲过关于它的传说。沃尔特·雷利爵士曾相信他会在奥里诺科河附近找到埃尔多拉多，别人却希望能在亚马孙河附近找到这个地方。那时，他们都在寻找这样一个国家：国王住在优美的湖畔上一座名叫玛诺的黄金城里，这个国家比人们所能想象到的还要富足。

玛诺城是想象中的幻境，可是那个湖却不是幻境。在 10000 英尺高的安第斯山上，其布蝉印地安人就居住在一个湖泊的四周。他们拥有大量的黄金，每年都把黄金抛到湖中祭神。西班牙人知道了，就派兵去抢夺黄金。探子们把这一消息带给了其布蝉人，于是他们就将剩下的全部黄金都倒入湖中。有些人说湖底的黄金和宝石价值 35 亿美元。

许多人都曾努力寻找过其布蝉人的珍宝。那时，西班牙人就曾让成千的印地安人在这个湖边挖了洞，这样湖水下降了，他们就能找到少量的黄金。在距我们更近的一些年代里，一些英国工程师曾设法开凿地下暗沟，让湖水流干，可是泥土很快就把暗沟淤塞了，他们一点儿金子也没找到。现在一些美国人正使用一些功效很高的机器，企图把黄金挖出来，可是这是一项进展缓慢而又困难的工作。

你想找到珍宝吗？如果你在海滩上来回散步，也许会找到一些珍宝。但是，最好还是读些历史书籍，研究研究古代的记载，这样你就会知道装运珍宝的船只沉没的地点了。你很可能要去加勒比海，或佛罗里达州，在那里你会找到摩根藏的一些珍宝，或者是一块黄金，或许只会找到一些古怪的鱼，但这又有什么关系呢？

- 
1. El Dorado [eldo'ra:dou] (西班牙文) 传说中南美洲的一个黄金国。
  2. Sir Walter Raleigh ['wɔ:lto 'reɪli] 沃尔特·雷利爵士(1552?—1618)，英国历史学家、航海家。
  3. the Orinoco river [ori'noukou] 奥里诺科河，南美洲的一条大河。

## 2. EXPLORING BY SUBMARINE

In 1872 a British ship, the *Challenger*, began a voyage round the world. The *Challenger* was a surface ship, but her orders were to explore the world below the surface of the sea. In a voyage of nearly four years her scientists studied the living things that they brought up from different depths. Her officers measured the depth of water in many places in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. The greatest depth that they measured was 8,367 metres between Admiralty Island<sup>1</sup> and Japan. It was the first of many voyages to explore the world below the sea.

Since then, we have learnt a lot about the ocean-bed and life under the sea. There are mountains on the sea-bed as high as those on land. Pico Island in the Azores<sup>2</sup> stands about 2,130 metres above the water, but it is 8,230 metres above the sea-bed. It is only one high point in a long line of great mountains three kilometres under the Atlantic. This Atlantic Ridge reaches all the way from Iceland to the Antarctic.<sup>3</sup> There are other lines of mountains under the Pacific and Indian Oceans. There are also deep holes in the ocean beds. Some of these holes are more than 9,000 metres deep.

By 1950, men had explored every ocean except one — the Arctic. Explorers like Nansen and Amundsen had shown that it was very difficult to take ships safely through the Arctic ice. But could submarines explore the Arctic *under* the ice? Submarines had crossed the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans under the water. Perhaps they could cross the Arctic Ocean too.

Earlier submarines could not do it: they had to come close to the surface and use their oil engines to store electric

## 2. 潜水艇探险

1872 年英国“挑战者”号军舰开始了一次环球航行。“挑战者”号是一艘水上舰，可是它的使命是考察海洋的水下世界。在将近 4 年的航行中，船上的科学家研究了从海洋不同深度打捞上来的生物。船上的工作人员测量了大西洋、太平洋和印度洋许多不同地方的深度。他们测出的最深深度为 8367 米，位于阿德米勒尔提岛与日本之间。这是许多次考察海洋水下世界航行中的第一次。

从此，我们了解到许多关于海床和海底生物的情况。在海床上有和陆地上一样高的高山。亚速尔群岛中的皮库岛高出海面 2130 米，却高出海床 8230 米。它只不过是大西洋水面下 3 公里深处一条长长的大山脉中的一座高山而已。这条大西洋海岭从冰岛一直延伸到南极。在太平洋和印度洋里还有另外几条海底山脉。海床上也有深洞，其中有些洞深达 9000 多米。

到 1950 年，人类已经考察了除北冰洋以外的所有大洋。象南森和芒德森这些探险家曾指出，要使船从北冰洋的冰丛中平安通过是非常困难的。那么，潜水艇能不能从冰下对北冰洋进行考察呢？潜水艇曾由水下横穿大西洋、太平洋和印度洋，或许也能横穿北冰洋。

早期的潜水艇是不能横穿北冰洋的。那时的潜水艇必须靠近水面

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1. Admiralty Island ['ædmərəlti] 阿德米勒尔提群岛中的一岛，位于南太平洋。 2. the Azores [ə'zɔ:z] 亚速尔群岛，位于北大西洋中东部。 3. the Antarctic ['ænta:ktik] 南极洲。

power for their under-water engines. But after 1955 the Americans had nuclear submarines, and a nuclear submarine can stay deep below the surface for a very long time.

In 1958 the U. S. submarine *Nautilus* was ready to try to reach the North Pole<sup>1</sup> under the ice. It would not be easy, even for the *Nautilus*. If her engines failed, the men would be caught under the ice, and they would all die. If they struck ice or an under-sea mountain, the submarine would break like an egg.

The *Nautilus* first tried to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but she could not find a big enough space between the ice and the sea-bed. She tried a second time. At last, in July 1958, she found a space, and on 3 August, with her hundred men, she passed exactly over the North Pole under the ice.

The *Nautilus* had sailed across the top of the world. She had shown that it was possible to make the voyage from Japan to Europe shorter by 5,000 miles. In March 1959, another American submarine, the *Skate*, reached the North Pole under the ice and came up to the surface there. By chance she had found open water — not much, but enough — almost exactly at the Pole itself. The men left the *Skate*, walked over the ice, and took pictures.

Nuclear submarines have been down to great depths, but they cannot safely explore the deepest parts of the sea. For this, Auguste Piccard made the bathyscaphe.<sup>2</sup> He used the facts about pressure that he had used for his balloons, but for the opposite effect. In 1960, Piccard's son, Jacques, and an American, Donald Walsh, went down in a bathyscaphe to a depth of 11,000 metres near the Mariana Islands.<sup>3</sup> It was in the Challenger Deep.<sup>4</sup> The *Challenger* had found this deep hole in 1874 but could not measure its depth. Even the bathyscaphe could not reach the bottom, which is nearly 11,700 metres from the surface.

航行，它们是利用燃油发动机为水下发动机储备电能的。1955年以后，美国有了核潜艇。核潜艇能长时间停留在海底深水之中。

1958年美国潜艇诺提勒斯号准备由冰下试航到北极。这对诺提勒斯号来说也不是一件轻而易举的事。一旦发动机出了故障，艇上人员就要被困在冰下，甚至会全部丧生。一旦撞在冰上或海底巨礁上，潜艇会象鸡蛋一样碰得粉碎。

诺提勒斯号第一次试图由大西洋穿过北冰洋抵达太平洋，但是在冰层与海床之间他们未能找到能让潜艇通过的缝隙。后来又进行了第二次试航。终于在1958年7月找到了冰下通道，并于8月3日诺提勒斯号载着艇上百名船员从冰层下正好驶过北极。

诺提勒斯号驶过了地球的顶端。这表明，从日本到欧洲的航程可以缩短5000英里。1959年3月美国另一艘潜艇斯克特号从冰层下驶达北极，并且升出水面。斯克特号偶然发现一块没有被冰覆盖的洋面，这块洋面几乎正处在北极极点上，它的面积尽管不大，但足以使斯克特号露出水面。船员们离开潜艇走到冰面上留了影。

核潜艇虽然已经能够下沉到海洋极深的地方，但是还不能安全地探测海洋的最深处。为此，奥古斯特·皮卡德制造了深海潜水器。他从相反的方面运用了制作气球的压力原理。1960年皮卡德的儿子雅克和另一位美国人唐纳德·沃尔什乘深海潜水器在马里亚纳群岛附近洋面下沉到11000米的深处。这正是在“查林杰”海渊区里。“挑战者”号曾于1874年发现这一海渊，可是当时还没有办法测出它的深度。甚至就是乘深海潜水器也不能沉到它的底部。它的深度离海面约有11700米。

- 
1. the North Pole 北极。 2. bathyscaphe ['bæθɪskæf] 深海潜水器。  
3. the Mariana Islands [məˈriːɑːnə] 马利亚纳群岛，位于太平洋，菲律宾附近。 4. the Challenger Deep 查林杰海渊，位于太平洋西部。

In the deepest seas there is complete darkness, the water is very cold, and the pressure is very great. The bathyscaphe and deep-sea photographs have shown that there is life at very great depths. There are even fish that have their own headlights. And certain fish which live near the surface of the cold seas near the North Pole and South Pole are also found below the warm seas, at depths where the water is equally cold. Do they move with the seasons? We are not sure. The exploration of the depths of the sea is not yet complete.

### 3. EXCUSE ME, WHAT WAS THAT YOU WHISTLED?

Visitors to the Canary Islands<sup>1</sup> usually go to Tenerife or Gran Canaria. Very few of them go to the island of Gomera. But Gomera is an island with a surprise, because the people there have two languages: Spanish and whistle-language.

It was a great day in the history of Gomera when Columbus<sup>2</sup> arrived with his ships before his first crossing of the Atlantic. Columbus stayed on the island while he bought fruit and cattle and other animals for the voyage. Perhaps the story that he fell in love with one of the women of Gomera is true. But Gomera has not shared in many of the events of history. It is not easy to land there from the sea, and aeroplanes cannot land at all. Small boats are used for trade with the other islands.

Gomera is the only place in the world which has a whistle-language. How did it begin? Why did it begin? We cannot answer these questions because we do not know the complete history of the island. We do know that the Spaniards were not the first people to whistle there. Norman seamen had visited the island in 1402. They found tall people with fair hair and



在最深的深海里是一片漆黑,海水非常寒冷,压力也非常大。深海潜水器和深海照片告诉我们,在这样的深海里也存在着生命,甚至还有一种头顶能够发光的鱼。在温暖海洋的深处,其温度与南北两极水温相同的地方也可以找到某些生活在北极和南极冰冷海水里的浅水鱼。它们是否随季节而迁移?这一点我们还无法肯定。海洋深处的探测工作至今仍未完成。

### 3. 口哨语

到加那利群岛的游客常去特内里费岛或大加那利岛,却很少有人到戈梅腊岛去。戈梅腊岛是一个奇异的小岛,因为岛上居民使用两种语言:西班牙语和口哨语。

哥伦布第一次横渡大西洋之前,曾率领他的船队到过戈梅腊岛,这是该岛历史上一个重要的日子。哥伦布为准备远航,在采购果品、牛及其他牲畜的时候,曾在这个小岛上住过。传说,他还爱上了岛上的一个女人,这也可能是真的。然而,历史上许多事件都没有波及到戈梅腊岛。这里海轮不易靠岸,飞机无法降落,人们用小船与别的岛做生意。

戈梅腊岛是世界上唯一使用口哨语的地方。口哨语是如何产生的?为什么会产生呢?我们还回答不了这样的问题,因为我们不了解该岛的全部历史。可是我们确实知道岛上最初使用口哨语的不是西班牙人。诺尔曼水手曾于1402年到过这个海岛。他们发现了一些高个子、黄头发、蓝眼睛的人,他们自称是甘奇人。这些人以牧牛为生。

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1. the Canary Islands [kə'neəri] 加那利群岛,位于北大西洋东部。
  2. Columbus [kə'lambəs] 哥伦布(1451—1506),意大利航海家,于1492年发现美洲新大陆。