□自十万▼家庭丰架

英汉对照



伦敦日志 (1762—1763)

LONDON JOURNAL (1762-1763)

[英] 詹姆斯·鲍斯韦尔 著

James Boswell

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出版前言

文明的传承,是在一代代人的精神相濡中不知不觉完成的;一部部好书,就是传承世界文明的一个个使者,通过它们,世界文明浑圆贯通的历史才得以构筑。

家庭是一个人生命和精神的起点,也是终点。如果把一本本书比喻成一片片树叶,那它们最终都要"叶"落归家。因此,说家庭书架事关文明传承,似乎也并非危言耸听。

在欧美诸国,普通家庭在客厅、壁炉旁或卧室等处一般都有书架,其上摆满了他们所谓的"家庭读物"。这种家庭读物并非菜谱、医疗保健或旅游指南之类,而主要是经典的文学艺术作品;这些书也不是纯粹为了装饰或摆设而整整齐齐码在书架上供人观瞻而不蒙主人垂青翻阅,而是似乎随意地放诸床头或茶几或阳台甚至卫生间里,家人触手可及,率意翻阅;抑或出门旅行前随意带上一册,在候机候车的间隙捧而读之。

而在经济飞速发展的当代中国,当我们不经意间走进一个个越来越宽敞明亮的中国家庭,能看到琳琅满目充满了艺术感的家具,能感受到灯光营造出的朦胧诗意,却很少能看到一个摆放了那些人类沉淀已久的文明成果的书架;当我们乘飞机或火车出行时,多见匆忙而过的旅客手中的时尚杂志或街头八卦小报,却少见有人手捧一册文学或艺术作品在喧嚣中静静阅读。

作为出版人,每当此时,我们的心灵就犹如受到重重的一击,总觉得

出版前言

空气中应该弥漫着一点灵动潮湿的东西,一种让钢筋水泥也笼罩上诗意的东西。

承续了 5000 年悠久文明的中国人,却时时处处表现出这种精神的贫乏和失意。我们内心充满着遗憾和忧伤……

是这样的遗憾和失落,是这样久违了的文明意识,是这样的感时伤怀, 是这样的一种萦绕于心的担当,让我们起意策划出版这样一套充满着人文 气息的"家庭书架"。

这是一套在西方文化发展丰富和无比强大的读物,这还是一套普通人可以阅读但充满了贵族气息的读物。这套"家庭书架",承载着每个与之结缘的个体的希望和梦想,反和文明积淀过程中影响久远的读物,这是一套影响了欧美诸民族心灵无意识和集体文明意识的读物,这是一套可以让个体精神世界变得无比映了那些敏感而伟大的创作者的伟大的灵感和善良的心怀;这套"家庭书架"是英语世界的丰碑,是那些善于思考、长于想象的创作者的心灵圣坛,是每个读者心灵的指南,是那些伟大作者思想智慧的无限延伸,是人类文明的承载者和担当者……

这套"家庭书架"在西方长销不衰。原因一,其题材多为文学艺术类、传记类、历史类、游记散文、社会文化类等;原因二,其作者虽然身份、职业不同,但都以文辞优美著称,即使深奥难测的美学或哲学著作,如罗斯金的《艺术十讲》、佩特的《柏拉图和苏格拉底》,也因作者完美的散文笔法而显得深入浅出。其他如华盛顿·欧文的《英国速写》、马克·吐温的《说谎艺术的腐朽》、吉卜林的《旅行书简》、卢卡斯的《佛罗伦萨的漫游者》、鲍斯韦尔的《伦敦日志》等,也都册册出自闻名世界的文学家之手。这些游记或散文,不仅充满了精神感召的力量,而且篇篇都可作英语美文的欣赏文本。手持这些文本阅读的过程,完全是一次次轻松愉悦的精神旅行。

但我们也忐忑! 译事沉疴如今业已成为当代中国知识领域难以治愈的 顽疾,虽然当前仍有少数译者在译事丛林中艰难爬梳并屡有优秀成果问世,

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但我们已经很难看到把翻译当做一门学问的优秀翻译家了。

在这样萧索的环境下组织翻译出版这套汇聚诸多大师著作的大型中英 双语版"家庭书架",一如逆水行舟,虽然在激流暗礁中处处是陷阱和漩 涡,但只要能为读者朋友提供一份份可资借鉴的阅读文本,我们愿意奋力 划桨,并期待在我们身后,千帆竞发!

我们同时也深知,要在两种不同语言之间进行巧妙的置换和替代谈何容易,尤其是翻译大师的著作。译者犹如走钢丝的杂技演员,在两种语言之间的钢索上行走已属艰难,为了博取喝彩,他还必须步履轻松,姿态优美,时时做出一些高难度的动作!面对凌空独索,我们甚至怀疑思想是根本无法在两种语言间传达的。鉴于此,我们只能说:为了理想之塔慢慢矗立,虽然我们的译文一定存在着许多难以克服的问题,但我们愿如农夫般劳作。

我们还寄希望于读者与我们一道修筑这座精神之塔,能同时用两种语言来欣赏这些伟大作品的读者自然会有足够的英语鉴赏力,我们有勇气将这些文本呈现给你们,请你们提出自己的疑问,指出我们的不足,使这套丛书在今后不断的修订过程中获得最佳效果。

译事维艰,出版维艰,但有优秀的读者在,就有希望在!在优秀的读者和伟大的作者之间,我们愿成为一条钢索。

中国人民大学出版社 2007年12月

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Notes

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He advised me to keep a journal of my life, fair and undisguised. He said it would be a very good exercise, and would yield me infinite satisfaction when the ideas were faded from my remembrance. I told him that I had done so ever since I left Scotland. He said he was very happy that I pursued so good a plan. And now, O my journal! Art thou not highly dignified? Shalt thou not flourish tenfold? No former solicitations or censures could tempt me to lay thee aside; and now is there any argument which can outweigh the sanction of Mr. Samuel Johnson? He said indeed that I should keep it private, and that I might surely have a friend who would burn it in case of my death. For my own part, I have at present such an affection for this my journal that it shocks me to think of burning it. I rather encourage the idea of having it carefully laid up among the archives of it Auchinleck. However, I cannot judge fairly of it now. Some years hence I may. I told Mr. Johnson that I put down all sorts of little incidents in it. "Sir," said he, "there is nothing too little for so little a creature as man. It is by studying little things that we attain the great knowledge of having as little misery and as much happiness as possible."

16 July 1763

他建议我记一份关于自己生活的清晰、坦诚的日记,他说这是一件非常好的事情。当自己曾经的种种想法和观点逐渐从记忆中消退的时候,日记将能给我带来极大的满足感。我告诉他自从我离开苏格兰起我已经在这么做了,他说对我的这个计划感到很高兴。现在,唉,我的日记啊!艺术啊!你是如此高贵、如此繁荣!之前的那些诱惑和责难都不能让我把这些日记丢在一旁,现在又有什么能够超过塞缪尔·约翰逊先生对我的支持呢?他说我私人应该保存这些日记。但是我在想,应该有一位朋友,在我万一去世时,他能够将这些日记付之一炬。就我个人来说,我现在就有一种想法,想把这些感动过我的日记烧掉,或许我应该把它们妥善保存在奥金莱克家族的档案卷宗里。我现在没法判断哪种想法更好,也许数年以后我会有更好的主意。我告诉约翰逊先生,我的日记写得很详细,把许多琐事都记下来了。他对我说:"先生,再小的事情,对于人类这种微琐的生物来说也算不上是琐事。正是通过学习小事情,我们才能拥有关于最大限度地减少痛苦、获得幸福的广博知识。"

1763年7月16日

INTRODUCTION

The ancient philosopher certainly gave a wise counsel when he said, "Know thyself." For surely this knowledge is of all the most important. I might enlarge upon this. But grave and serious declamation is not what I intend at present. A man cannot know himself better than by attending to the feelings of his heart and to his external actions, from which he may with tolerable certainty judge "what manner of person he is". I have therefore determined to keep a daily journal in which I shall set down my various sentiments and my various conduct, which will be not only useful but very agreeable. It will give me a habit of application and improve me in expression; and knowing that I am to record my transactions will make me more careful to do well. Or if I should go wrong, it will assist me in resolutions of doing better. I shall here put down my thoughts on different subjects at different times, the whims that may seize me and the sallies of my luxuriant imagination. I shall mark the anecdotes and the stories that I hear, the instructive or amusing conversations that I am present at, and the various adventures that I may have.

I was observing to my friend Erskine that a plan of this kind was dangerous, as a man might in the openness of his heart say many things and discover many facts that might do him great harm if the journal should fall into the hands of his enemies. Against which there is no perfect security. "Indeed", said he, "I hope there is no danger at all; for I fancy you will not set down your robberies on the highway, or the murders that you commit. As to other things there can be no harm." I laughed heartily at my friend's observation, which was so far true. I shall be upon my guard to mention nothing that can do harm. Truth shall ever be observed, and these things (if there should be any such) that require the gloss of falsehood shall be passed by in silence. At the same time I may relate things under borrowed names with safety that would do much mischief if particularly known.

In this way I shall preserve many things that would otherwise be lost in ob-

引言

一位古代的哲人曾经向世人发出一句睿智的忠告:"了解你自己。"的确,了解自己能获得最重要的知识。我要做的不仅仅是这些,但我现在不想就这个问题做一场庄重、严肃的讲演。一个人如果不能专心体会自己内心的感受和外在的举止,他是不可能了解自己的,只有从这种体会和感受中,他才能知道"我是什么样的人"。因此我决定写日记,记下我种种的情感和各种行为,这不仅很有价值,也很令人愉快。这会让我养成运用文字的习惯并提高我的表达能力。对自己行为的详细记录,也将会让我做事情更加小心谨慎,如果做错事了,日记能帮助我以后做得更好。在日记中,我要记下自己在不同时间、对不同事情的各种想法,还要记下我脑海中突然浮现的种种念头和丰富的想象。日记中还少不了各种奇闻趣事、风趣或是发人深省的谈话,以及我将要进行的种种历险。

我正在观察我的朋友欧斯金,这个计划是很危险的。因为他是一个非常聪明的人,总能洞悉事物的真相,如果我们的行程被他的敌人所掌握,那将会给他带来极大的危险。事实上,根本没有绝对的安全。就像他说的:"其实,我希望没有危险发生,我认为你在路上既不会遇到抢劫犯,也不会遇到杀人犯,至于其他事情,就没有什么可担心的了。"我对朋友的话报以会心的微笑,他的话太有道理了。事实上并没有什么危险值得我提高警惕去防范。真理总是会显现,而那些需要谎言来掩饰的事情(如果真有的话)总会在沉默中逐渐消失。但是为了安全起见,在一些事情上我还是会用假名,以免带来伤害。

只有用这种方法,我才能保证许多事情不被遗忘所吞噬。我要为自己 雇个用人,让他提醒我不要懒惰,并帮我从忧郁中解脱出来。我还要为以 后的生活准备一些必需品。每天我们都要经历很多事情,我们常常只是从

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livion. I shall find daily employment for myself, which will save me from indolence and help to keep off the spleen, and I shall lay up a store of entertainment for my after life. Very often we have more pleasure in reflecting on agreeable scenes that we have been in than we had from the scenes themselves. I shall regularly record the business or rather the pleasure of every day. I shall not study much correctness, lest the labour of it should make me lay it aside altogether. I hope it will be of use to my worthy friend Johnston, and that while he laments my personal absence, this journal may in some measure supply that defect and make him happy. ^①

MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Elated with the thoughts of my journey to London, I got up. I called upon my friend Johnston, but found he was not come from the country, which vexed me a little, as I wished to bid him cordially adieu. However, I excused him to myself, and as Cairnie[®] told me that people never took leave in France, I made the thing sit pretty easy. I had a long serious conversation with my father and mother. They were very kind to me. I felt parental affection was very strong towards me; and I felt a very warm filial regard for them. The scene of being a son setting out from home for the wide world and the idea of being my own master, pleased me much. I parted with my brother Davy, leaving him my best advices to be diligent at his business as a banker and to make rich[®] and be happy.

① Boswell's entire journal was written with Johnston in mind, and was sent to him through the post in weekly parcels each accompanied by a letter.

② Dr. John Cairnie, Edinburgh physician, as an active supporter of the exiled Stuarts had spent many years abroad. (When he died in 1791, Sir William Forbes reported to Boswell that he was dressed for burial in a shirt of Prince Charles Edward's, which he had carefully preserved for that purpose since 1745.) He also made something of a business of accompanying Scots patients to the Continent. Boswell had retained his services in a private matter later to be divulged,

③ A Scotticism for explanation of the editorial policy followed in this volume with regard to Boswell's deviations from standard English.

令人开心的事情的结果中获得快感,而忽略了事物本身。我将忠实记录每 天在身边发生的事情,而不过多考虑它们的结果。我不会过多研究处理事 情的方法,那会让我把其他的事都搁置在一旁。我希望这么做能让我的好 友约翰斯顿从中受益。我离开他,他肯定很伤心,但愿这些日记能在一定 程度上进行补偿,给他带来快乐。^①

11 月 15 日 星期一

早上,想着我们的伦敦之行,我兴奋地起了床。接着去拜访我的老朋友约翰斯顿,却发现他并没有从乡下回来,这让我多少感到有些遗憾,我多么希望得到他真诚的道别!当然,我也能够原谅他,就像卡尔尼②对我说的,在法国,人们很少旅行,而我把旅行看得太简单了。我和父母进行了一次严肃的长谈,他们对我太好了。我感到了他们对我的浓浓的爱意,我也对他们表达了我恭敬孝顺的爱。作为一个儿子,我即将离开家庭,到外面广阔的世界去,并且我也能够独立成为自己的主人。对这一点,我感到很开心。我和我的兄弟大卫告别了,留下我对他的美好的祝愿。他是一名银行家,我祝愿他能勤勉地工作,变得富有③,变得快乐。

10点的时候,我坐到了马车上,离开了。当我经过路口的时候,法官和主席对我鞠躬致意,好像在说:"愿上帝保佑我们鲍斯韦尔家族兴旺发

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① 鲍斯韦尔的所有日记都是假想写给约翰斯顿的,每过几个星期就会打包寄给约翰斯顿看。

② 约翰·卡尔尼,爱丁堡的内科医生,是已经被流放的斯图亚特王室的积极支持者,在国外多年。(当他在1791年去世的时候,威廉·福布斯先生对鲍斯韦尔说,他是穿着查理·爱德华王子的衣服被埋葬的,这件衣服自从1745年起就被他精心保存着,为的就是能在死的时候穿着它。)他也在苏格兰行医,在后来的日记中鲍斯韦尔也记录了曾经因为私人的问题接受卡尔尼的帮助。

③ 这里使用了苏格兰方言。鲍斯韦尔的日记有些地方的用法和标准英语略有出人,这是他用了苏格兰方言的原因。