

“话说美国”英语阅读系列之一

Stories in American History



美国往事：记忆与历史

主编 陈立凯



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

美国往事:记忆与历史:英文/陈立凯主编. —南京:
南京大学出版社, 2007. 4

(“话说美国”英语阅读系列)

ISBN 978 - 7 - 305 - 05027 - 5

I. 美… II. 陈… III. ①英语—语言读物②美国—历史 IV. H319.4:K

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 047115 号

出版者 南京大学出版社
社 址 南京市汉口路 22 号 邮 编 210093
网 址 <http://press.nju.edu.cn>
出版人 左 健

丛 书 名 “话说美国”英语阅读系列
书 名 美国往事:记忆与历史
主 编 陈立凯
责任编辑 蒋桂琴 编辑热线 025 - 83592123

照 排 南京南琳图文制作有限公司
印 刷 南京大众新科技印刷有限公司
开 本 787×960 1/16 印张 15.5 字数 325 千
版 次 2007 年 4 月第 1 版 2007 年 4 月第 1 次印刷
ISBN 978 - 7 - 305 - 05027 - 5
定 价 21.00 元

发行热线 025 - 83592169 025 - 83592317
电子邮件 sales@press.nju.edu.cn(销售部)
nupress1@public1.ptt.js.cn

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序

这套“话说美国”英语阅读系列共有三册，内容选自美国国会图书馆“美国故事”栏目。该栏目载有近千篇关于美国历史、社会、文化等小故事。我们征得该栏目负责人 Guy Lamolina 允许，选用了其中一部分故事加以整理、改编、注释，编辑成本套丛书。

本套丛书第一册是《美国往事：记忆与历史》，第二册是《美国风情：地理与文化》，第三册是《美国性格：人物与趣闻》，分别选编了“美国故事”的部分内容，向读者介绍美国历史、社会、文化、工业、农业、少数民族等美国历史和社会发展中的的人和事。故事的篇幅短小精悍，内容丰富、语言简单、生动易懂，是我们进一步认识美国、了解美国的有益读物。

本套丛书提供了一般教科书上所没有的知识和逸闻趣事，注释详细、客观。它既适合作为大学英语专业低年级学生的课外读物，也可以作为同等英语水平的读者学习英语的材料，等等。另外，建议读者朋友将本套丛书参照来读，因为许多篇章都是相互联系的。

在编辑过程中有些故事的注释参考了公开发表的著作中的内容。在此，特向有关作者表示感谢。注释中大多数句子的译文都是注释者自己的个人翻译，错误在所难免，欢迎读者朋友提出批评指正。

编者

二〇〇六年十二月

前 言

本书是这套“话说美国”英语注释读物系列的第一本。它将美国历史分为十一个时期,从最初的移民来到新大陆建立定居点开始直到当代美国,共提供了一百多个美国历史文化小故事。这些小故事内容包括最初的移民生活、黑人奴隶的反抗、争取独立的战争、维护统一的战争、美国在两次世界大战中的作用、人类登上月球、尼克松总统访华、民权运动和妇女解放运动、9·11事件等等。这些故事里有人物传记,有事件描述,讲述了从最下层的贫民到最上层的总统,从勇猛的战斗到多谋的将军等社会各阶层人员和各个侧面的故事,向我们展示了一幅美国历史的宏伟画卷。故事从二百多字到三百多字不等,内容丰富、语言简单、短小精悍、生动有趣,是我们了解美国历史及美国文化非常有用的材料。其中许多故事都是以前未曾见过的,这对于我们进一步了解美国的历史也有帮助。

本书中有的故事和本套丛书的其它两本《美国风情:地理与文化》和《美国性格:人物与趣闻》互为参照,内容相连。

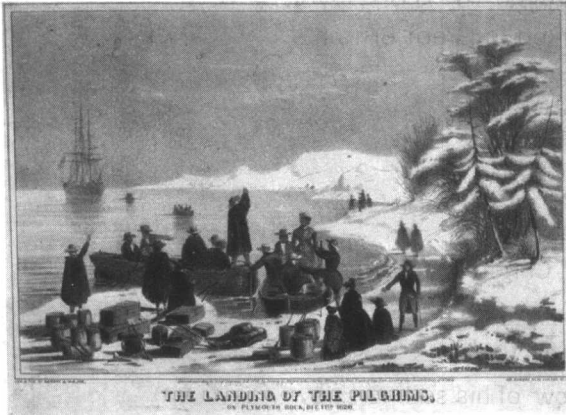
本书采用注释的方式,对每篇故事里涉及到的知识性的重点尽可能地提供了详尽的介绍,以帮助读者在欣赏美文的过程中更深入地了解美国人民的文化。另外,注释中对有些词句作了注解,还有部分句子提供了译文。当然这只是注释者个人的理解,难免有误,敬请读者朋友提出批评指正。

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Part I. Colonial America (1492-1763)

殖民时代



The Pilgrims landing on Plymouth Rock, December 1620.

Introduction

European nations came to the **Americas**¹ to increase their wealth and broaden their influence over world affairs. The Spanish were among the first Europeans to explore the New World and the first to settle in what is now the United States.

By 1650, however, **England had established a dominant presence on the Atlantic coast.**² The first colony

1. 此处指美洲

2. 英国人已在大西洋沿岸掌握了控制权。

was founded at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. Many of the people who settled in the New World came to **escape religious persecution**³. The **Pilgrims**⁴, founders of Plymouth, Massachusetts, arrived in 1620. In both Virginia and Massachusetts, the colonists flourished with some assistance from **Native Americans**⁵. New World grains such as corn kept the colonists from starving while, in Virginia, tobacco provided a **valuable cash crop**⁶. By the early 1700s enslaved Africans made up a growing percentage of the colonial population. By 1770, more than 2 million people lived and worked in Great Britain's 13 North American colonies.

3. 逃避宗教迫害
4. 朝圣者。此处指在 1620 年到达美洲创立普利茅斯殖民地的英国移民。
5. 北美印第安人
6. 一种很有价值的经济作物

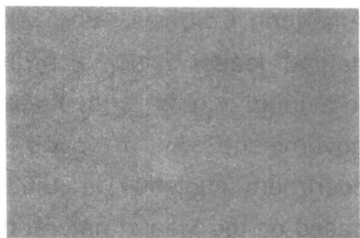
1. Land Ho!¹ Christopher Columbus Saw Land!

Early in the morning on October 12, 1492, a sailor looked out to the horizon from the **bow**² of his sailing ship, the *Pinta*, and saw land. After 10 long weeks at sea, from the port of Palos, Spain, Columbus and his crews saw the New World. **The following day, 90 crew members from Columbus's three-ship fleet set foot on the island of Guanahani in the Bahamas and planted the flag of their sponsors, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain**³. Columbus continued his exploration, discovering other lands. Do you know what other places Columbus found as he continued his journey?

The first Columbus Day celebration in the United States took place on October 12, 1792—300 years after

1. *interj.* 嗨! (叹词, 表示喜悦、嘲笑、惊讶等)
2. *n.* 船头
3. 第二天, 哥伦布这支有三艘船的舰队上的 90 名船员踏上了巴哈马群岛中的瓜那哈尼岛, 将他们的赞助人西班牙国王费尔迪南和王后伊莎贝拉的国旗插上了该岛。

his first discovery—but it still wasn't an official holiday for another 100 years. Days commemorating special events like Columbus Day or birthdays of famous leaders, like Martin Luther King Jr., become national holidays and help people remember the important contributions these individuals made to the country.



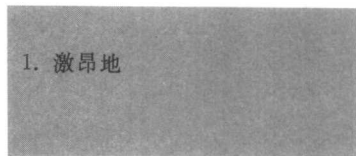
Notes:

1. the port of Palos, Spain: 西班牙帕罗斯港, 位于西班牙西南部。1492年8月3日, 哥伦布率领船队从这里出发进入大西洋, 去寻找通往东方的航路。
2. the island of Guanahani in the Bahamas: 瓜纳哈尼岛, 巴哈马群岛中的一个岛屿。瓜纳哈尼岛是美洲印第安人对该岛的称呼。哥伦布在1492年10月12日第一次到达美洲登上这个岛屿时, 给这个岛屿取名为 San Salvador, 即“圣·萨尔瓦多岛”, 与中美洲国家萨尔瓦多共和国是两回事。
3. Bahamas: 巴哈马共和国, 位于美国佛罗里达州东部, 古巴共和国北面, 由大小700个岛屿和2000个岩礁组成。巴哈马共和国是君主立宪制国家, 奉英王伊丽莎白二世为元首, 以总督为代表。
4. King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain: 西班牙国王费尔迪南(1452—1516)和王后伊莎贝拉(1451—1594), 二人共同赞助了哥伦布发现新航路的行动。
5. Martin Luther King Jr.: 马丁·路德·金(1929—1968), 美国黑人牧师, 著名民权运动领导人。金自20世纪50年代起就投入民权运动。1963年组织了20万人的“华盛顿”大进军, 促使国会于1964年通过了《民权法案》。金主张非暴力和平抗议, 于1964年获得诺贝尔和平奖。1968年4月4日, 金遇刺身亡, 年仅39岁。请参阅后面的有关文章。

2. “Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!”

Have you ever heard someone speak so **passionately**¹ that the speech moved you to do something? Even as a young man, Patrick Henry had that kind of influence in the

1. 激昂地



American Colonies. Born on May 29, 1736, Henry, a **natural leader**² and a brilliant speaker, believed in individual rights and independence from the British government. **As a young lawyer, he astonished his courtroom audience in 1763 with an eloquent defense based on the idea of natural rights, the political theory that humans are born with certain inalienable rights**³. The idea of natural rights is central to *the Declaration of Independence*. Does this sentence from the Declaration sound familiar to you? **“We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”**⁴

It was in St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia, that Patrick Henry delivered his most famous speech. With war against Great Britain **looming**⁵, Henry proclaimed, **“I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!”**⁶

As the first governor of Virginia and as a state **legislator**⁷, Henry continued to have profound influence on the development of the new nation. He worked for the addition of **the first ten amendments**⁸ to the Constitution. Known as *the Bill of Rights*, they guarantee certain freedoms, such as the freedom of speech and religion. Can you imagine the U. S. without such rights?

2. 一位天生的领导人

3. 1763年,亨利还是个年轻的律师,他就以一篇极有说服力的辩词使法庭里的听众感到震惊。这篇辩词是基于自然的权利的主张。这是一种人人生来就有某些不可剥夺的权利的政治理论。

inalienable: *adj.* 不可分割的, 不可剥夺的 ① 常用于短语 *inalienable rights*; 不可剥夺的权利

4. “我们认为下面这些真理是不言而喻的:人人生而平等,造物者赋予他们若干不可剥夺的权利,其中包括生命权、自由权和追求幸福的权利”。② 这是美国《独立宣言》中开头部分的几句话。

5. 逐渐逼近

6. “我不知道别人将怎么做。可是对我来说,不自由,毋宁死!”

proclaim: 表明,声明

I know not... 早期现代英语中助动词 do 不太常用,因此否定式常用 *verb+not* 的结构。

7. 立法委员

8. 第一批十项修正案,即《权利法案》。③ 这十项修正案限制了联邦政府的权利,确立了个人的权利。

Notes:

Patrick Henry: 帕特里克·亨利 (1736—99), 美国独立战争时期殖民地的政治家之一。这是一位天才的演说家, 他的演讲极大地鼓舞了殖民地人民争取独立的斗争。1775年3月23日他在弗吉尼亚里士满圣约翰教堂里召开的第二次弗吉尼亚大会上发表了一篇激昂的、鼓动性很强的演讲。从此, “不自由, 毋宁死”的口号鼓舞着千千万万的人民投入到争取自由独立的战争中, 也更加使他家喻户晓, 名垂青史。

3. A Mover and a Quaker¹

How did Pennsylvania get its name? Its founder, English reformer William Penn, born on October 14, 1644, in London, England, named it in honor of² his father.

Persecuted in England for his Quaker faith, Penn came to America in 1682 and established Pennsylvania as a place where people could enjoy freedom of religion. The colony became a haven for minority **religious sects**³ from Germany, Holland, Scandinavia, and Great Britain. Penn obtained the land from King Charles II as payment for a debt owed to **his deceased father**⁴.

Born the **privileged**⁵ son of a land-owning gentleman, young William Penn was greatly affected by the **preaching**⁶ of Quaker minister Thomas Loe. **Expelled**⁷ from Oxford University in England in 1662 for refusing to **conform to the Anglican Church**⁸, Penn joined the Quakers. He was locked up in **the Tower of London**⁹ four times for stating his beliefs in public and in print. After his father died in 1670, Penn inherited the family estates

1. 一位鼓动家和贵格派教徒
贵格派是基督教中的一个教派。
2. 为纪念……; 为向……表示敬意

3. 宗教派别

4. 他已故去的父亲
5. *adj.* 有特殊权利的
6. *n.* 讲道; 说教
7. *v.* 开除
8. 遵守英国圣公会教规
9. 伦敦塔

and began to **frequent**¹⁰ the court of King Charles II, **campaigning for**¹¹ religious freedom.

Seeing no prospects for religious tolerance or political reform in England¹², Penn looked to America, which he had visited briefly in 1677. In a 1682 document, Penn guaranteed absolute freedom of worship in Pennsylvania. Rich in fertile lands as well as religious freedom, the colony attracted settlers and grew rapidly.

Penn is also remembered for peaceful interaction with the Lenni Lenape Indians and his draft of the Plan of Union, a forerunner of the U. S. Constitution. Thanks to William Penn, Pennsylvania, which guaranteed religious freedom for its citizens, was established in the New World.

10. v. 常去, 时常出入于

11. 领导(参加)一场运动

12. 由于在英国看不到对于宗教的宽容或政治改革的希望

.....

Notes:

1. Anglican Church: 英国圣公会, 是英国英格兰地区的法定国家教会, 为英王亨利八世(Henry VIII, 1491—1547)所立。
2. The Tower of London: 伦敦塔, 是位于伦敦城东泰晤士河边的一座古堡, 约建于 1078 年, 是伦敦著名古迹之一。9 个世纪以来, 曾用做堡垒、王宫、国家监狱、皇家铸币厂和伦敦档案馆, 现为博物馆。

4. Can I Get Your Autograph¹, Mr. Hancock?

When you sign your name, that's known as **giving your John Hancock**². Born in 1737, John Hancock is most famous for **his bold signature**³. On August 2, 1776, he was the first member of **the Continental Congress**⁴ to sign

1. n. 亲笔签名

2. 签下你的名字

3. 他那粗大醒目的的签名

4. 大陆会议

the *Declaration of Independence*, the document first demanding independence for the United States from the rule of Great Britain. (The Declaration was “adopted”, or accepted, on July 4, 1776.) How do you sign your name?

Hancock wrote his name in big, bold letters that day, acting as president of the Second Continental Congress. Do you think he may have practiced writing his signature?

John Hancock had more than just a pretty signature⁵. He was a man who knew how to get things done. He **commissioned⁶** our future first president, George Washington, as commander in chief of the Army of the United Colonies in 1775. After the Revolution, Hancock, as governor of Massachusetts, led his state toward **ratification⁷** of the U. S. Constitution. He was also active in creating a navy for the new nation. He died in 1793 while serving his ninth term as Massachusetts' governor. So the next time someone asks you for your autograph, think of John Hancock.

5. 约翰·汉考克岂止是写得一手好字。

6. v. 委任

7. n. 签署

Notes:

1. John Hancock, 约翰·汉考克(1737-1793), 美国独立战争初期的大陆会议主席, 第一个在《独立宣言》签字的人。汉考克担任美国独立战争初期的大陆会议主席时, 第一个在《独立宣言》上签下了他的名字。据说, 当时他在《独立宣言》上签名时, 特意将名字写得很大, 用意就是使它醒目, 以便在呈递给英王乔治三世时英王能够看得清楚。由于他的签名, 美国英语里增添了以他的名字作为普通词汇的俚语: 亲笔签名。
2. the Continental Congress: 大陆会议, 北美十三个殖民地的代表会议, 是独立战争时期美国革命的领导机构。1774年9月在费城召开第一次大陆会议, 1775年5月召开第二次大陆会议, 决定组建大陆军并任命华盛顿为大陆军总司令, 1776年第二次大陆会议通过了《独立宣言》。

5. Deerfield Invasion, Raid of Deerfield, Massachusetts in Queen Anne's War

The colonists in the tiny frontier settlement of Deerfield, Massachusetts in 1704 were aware of surrounding danger. The French and British were fighting Queen Anne's War for control of the continent. Deerfield, under British rule, was in danger of attack by the French. **As a precaution, the town folk stayed within the town's palisade, a tall wooden fence enclosing the area¹.** But they did not expect an attack in the middle of winter. **On February 29, 1704, between 200 and 300 French soldiers and their Native American allies surprised and raided Deerfield².** The results for the townspeople were **disastrous³.**

Deerfield quickly fell to its invaders. Fifty-six English men, women, and children were killed and more than 100 residents were driven on a forced march through heavy snows to Canada. **Deerfield's minister, the Reverend John Williams⁴,** his wife and five children, were among the captives. Twenty-one of the prisoners died along the way. Mrs. Williams was one of them. The minister, however, survived the trip. After more than a year as a prisoner of war, he and 60 other captives returned to Massachusetts. But some stayed, joining either Native American or French society.

Reverend Williams **memorialized⁵** his Canadian experience in a book, *The Redeemed Captive Returning to Zion*.⁶ first printed in 1707. In it, he told his story and that of his family and **parishioners⁷**. Although four of his

1. 作为一种预防措施,村民们都呆在高高地围绕着村子的木栅栏里面。

2. 1704年2月29日,约200到300名法军士兵以及他们的土著印第安盟友突然袭击了迪尔菲尔德。

3. *adj.* 灾难性的

4. 迪尔菲尔德村的威廉斯牧师。“the Reverend”是对牧师(或神父等)的尊称

5. *v.* 为……作传记;纪念

6. 《重返天堂》。redeem: 解救,拯救; Zion: 【宗】天国,天堂

7. *n.* /pəˈrɪʃənə/ 教区居民

children returned home with him, his daughter, Eunice Williams, remained in Canada, joining **the Mohawk tribe**⁸. She took the name A'ongote, which means “She (was) taken and placed (as a member of their tribe),” and in early 1713, she married a Native American man.

In 1713, Queen Anne's War ended. France and England did not do battle in America again until the French and Indian War of 1754. The people of Deerfield could rebuild their town and, for a while, **rest easy**⁹.

8. 莫霍克族⑧北美印第安人的一个部落。

9. 高枕无忧

Notes:

1. Queen Anne's War: 安妮女王之战, 是17世纪末、18世纪初英法殖民者为争夺北美殖民地而进行的一系列战争中的一次。迪尔菲尔德是当时英国殖民地居民建在马萨诸塞的一个边远村落。
2. the French and Indian War of 1754: 法国和印第安人战争, 与安妮女王之战一样, 也是英法两国于17世纪末、18世纪初为争夺北美殖民地而进行的一系列战争中的一次, 而且是两国争霸的最后一次战争。战争从1754年开始, 一直持续到1763年。最后法国战败, 被迫媾和。两国于1763年2月10日签订了《巴黎条约》(The Treaty of Paris)。

6. Do You Know This Founding Father?

When someone talks about **the founding fathers of the United States**¹, to whom are they referring? Generally it's the men that helped to bring independence to the Colonies and create a Constitution that would ensure democracy and a balance of powers in the new country. One of these men is **John Jay**². Born on December 12, 1745, to a **prominent and wealthy family**³ in the Province

1. 美国的开国者们

2. 约翰·杰伊②(1745—1829), 美国政治家、律师, 大陆会议的成员之一。

3. 一个声名显赫而又富有的家庭

of New York, Jay attended Columbia University and then practiced law. Establishing a reputation in New York, Jay was elected to serve as delegate to the First and Second Continental Congresses. These groups debated whether the Colonies should declare independence from Britain.

Jay held numerous posts of public importance throughout the Revolutionary crisis, including president of the Continental Congress and **peace commissioner**⁴, in which he negotiated treaties with Spain and France. In 1787, Jay was named Secretary of Foreign Affairs, one of the nation's highest-ranking diplomatic posts. After the war, Jay joined **Alexander Hamilton**⁵ and **James Madison**⁶ in arguing for the creation of a new and more powerful, but **balanced system of government**⁷. They explained their proposed system in the *Federalist Papers*⁸, a series of 85 articles, five of them written by Jay.

In 1789, George Washington nominated Jay as **the first chief justice of the Supreme Court**⁹. Jay's most notable case was *Chisholm v. Georgia (1793)*¹⁰, in which Jay and the court established that the federal government ultimately has power over the states.

Jay went on to negotiate with Great Britain for the **Northwest Territory**¹¹, and in 1794, became governor of New York before retiring from politics in 1802. John Jay laid much of the groundwork upon which the U. S. was built and flourished. He is one of the nation's founding fathers.

4. 和谈专员

5. 亚历山大·汉密尔顿 (1755—1800), 美国政治家。

6. 詹姆斯·麦迪逊 (1751—1830), 美国第四任总统, 大陆会议的成员之一, 美国宪法和《权利法案》的主要起草人。

7. 均衡的政府体系

8. 《联邦主义者文集》拥护加强中央政府权力的汉密尔顿、杰伊和麦迪逊 3 人在纽约报刊上发表了 85 篇为新宪法辩护的政论文章。这些论文被称为《联邦主义者文集》。

9. 最高法院首席大法官

10. 奇泽姆诉乔治亚案

11. 西北领地包括现在的俄亥俄州、印第安纳州、伊利诺伊州、密执安州、威斯康星州及明尼苏达州的一部分。

Notes:

Chisholm v. Georgia: 泽姆诉乔治亚案。这是美国建国初期的一起由一州公民诉另一州政府的案例。1777年正值美国独立战争进行之中,乔治亚政府决定向一个南卡罗来纳的商人购买一批物资。在收到这批物资后,乔治亚政府却拒付货款。1792年,这位商人死后,他的遗嘱执行人亚历山大·奇泽姆向最高法院起诉乔治亚政府,企图收回货款。而乔治亚政府却坚决认为,它是一个具有独立主权的州,不受联邦法院的约束。当时法院所面临的问题是:乔治亚州是否受最高法院和联邦政府的管辖?约翰·杰伊任首席大法官的最高法院于1793年2月作出裁决,认为宪法已经明确规定,一州与他州的居民之间的争执受联邦法院的管辖,联邦政府对各州有至高的权力。

7. Fighting for Freedom, Stono's Rebellion

Early on the morning of Sunday, September 9, 1739, 20 black slaves met in secret near the Stono River in South Carolina to plan their escape to freedom. Minutes later, **they burst into Hutcheson's store at Stono's bridge¹**, killed the two storekeepers, and stole the guns and powder inside.

The group of slaves grew in number as they headed south. **Stono's Rebellion, the largest slave uprising in the Colonies prior to the American Revolution, was under way²**.

Stono's Rebellion was only one among the 250 rebellions **documented³** in the Colonies and later in the southern United States. **In 1822, a conspiracy to incite 9 000 slaves became known as Vesey's Rebellion⁴**. After **Nat Turner's Rebellion⁵** in 1831, where nearly 60 white people were killed, Turner was executed.

When the slave owners caught up with the rebels

1. 他们闯入了位于斯多诺河桥头的哈奇逊军火库,……
2. 美国革命前殖民地中最大的奴隶起义斯多诺起义开始了。
3. v. 记录
4. 1822年,一个叫做“维塞反抗”的奴隶暴动计划广为人知。这个计划准备鼓动9 000名奴隶起来造反。
5. 特纳暴动指发生在1831年8月弗吉尼亚州的另一个奴隶造反行动。