



英文學生叢書

MAN AND STUDENT—II

葛傳槩英文集

第二集

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MAN AND STUDENT—II

BY

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序

余幼時誦方望溪姚姬傳劉大櫟諸先生所爲古文辭，竊喜其意在言外，淡而彌永，至於循玩不忍釋手。長習英吉利文字，仍嗜讀其雋逸有神味者。求諸國內殆鮮其人；有之自嘉定葛君傳藥始。葛君夙賦天稟，又能力學不倦，驟聆其言論，似尙詭辯，多偏見；然靜焉思之，確有至理存乎其間。譬食諫果，初甚澀口，終則齒頰間津津有餘味也。其爲文善取不倫不類者以爲比，輕描淡寫，寓諷深刻。余嘗擬爲英文之桐城派，英文學者中之東方生。雖人事百忙，讀之便覺大快。君邃於英文規範，故爲文清新純正，不落恆蹊；論文往往多獨到處。生平著述極富，所作致友人書及英文學生日記，尤風行海內。茲更覓其生平所作，付梓問世；以余相知較深，馳書索言，因泚筆而樂爲之序。

蘇兆龍

PREFACE

Except for the fact that it is issued in three volumes, this book may be properly called an omnibus. It contains special articles, letters, prefaces, little essays, poems interpreted, and essays concerning the study of English. Most of the things included have been first published in *The Chung Hwa English Weekly*, under the headings "Talks on Things", "This and That", "Thoughts and Impressions", "The Open Classroom", "Chats on Writing English", and "Helps to the Study of English". The "Thoughts and Impressions" series and three other essays originally appeared under a pseudonym.

It is a matter of regret that I did not make a duplicate of my first letter to Mr H. W. Fowler, and therefore cannot include it in this book. The one printed herein, as is mentioned in "To the Memory of Mr H. W. Fowler", was written a fortnight after his death.

The essays concerning the study of English must not be regarded as a systematic treatment of the subject. Many of the points touched upon are more fully dealt with in my *How to Master English Without a Teacher*.

The following publishers have kindly permitted the inclusion of the pieces the titles of which follow their names in brackets: *The China Journal* ("On the Europeanization of the Chinese Language" and "Some Fragments of Pai Chü-i's Poetry concerning Women"); *The English Weekly* ("Letter to Mr H. W. Fowler" and "Letter to Mr A. J. Fowler" [dated March 23, 1934]); The Ching Wen Book Company ("Preface to 'The Diary of a Student'", "Preface to 'The Peacock Flies South-East'", and "Preface to 'A Chinese Schoolboy Visits England'").

Hertz C. K. K&.

December, 1936

MAN AND STUDENT

BOOK TWO

IN A BARBER'S SHOP°

As soon as° you enter a barber's shop, you lose your freedom.° You are not to regain° it till you have paid for it after a full hour's slavery.°

Well,° you may not wish to call it slavery. You may call it enjoyment. Many persons call it enjoyment; perhaps they enjoy slavery. Drunkards° enjoy being slaves to drink.° Young lovers enjoy being slaves of their sweethearts' caprices.° And many persons enjoy being slaves to a barber once a week!

I, for one,° do not enjoy being a slave to a barber. As soon as I enter a barber's shop, I feel I lose both my freedom and my dignity.° For I have to resign° myself, and especially that important part of myself, the head, to the control of an ignorant° or at least ill-educated° barber (I beg barbers' pardon). He turns about my head as though° it were his own instead of mine. He sometimes offers me a newspaper as much as to say,° "While I improve the outside of your head for you, you ought to improve its inside° yourself". But in fact° he does not care a bit° about what is in my head. He treats my head, which contains a knowledge of English

grammar, rhetoric,° phonetics,° literary history,° versification,° etc., in the same way as any head that does not contain a single word of English.

Talking of° English, I wonder, why the barbers in some fashionable shops in Shanghai often speak English—surely pidgin English°—among themselves. But this is by the way.°

To return to° the question of slavery. I feel my slavery more keenly as often as° I look into the glass before me. Is it not enough to make a slave of me? Is it necessary to remind° me that I am a slave?

I am glad that I do not make so much of° my hair as to require it to be shampooed° or singed° in a barber's shop. I want to have my hair cut, and have it cut, that's all.° Thus, if° I have to be a slave once every three or four weeks, my period of slavery is always a short one.

Emerging° from a barber's shop, I often heave a sigh of relief.°

NOTES

P. 1. barber's shop, 理髮店.

as soon as, 一俟.

lose my freedom, 失去我之自由.

are not to regain, 不可復得.

a full hour's slavery, 足有一小時之奴隸生活.

well, 語助詞.

drunkards, 酒徒.

enjoy being slaves to drink, 以耽於狂飲爲樂.

their sweethearts' caprices, 彼等之情人之任性.

for one, 就我個人而言.

dignity, 尊嚴.

resign, 拋棄.

ignorant, 無知識的.

ill-educated, 教育不良的.

as though, 宛如.

as much as to say, 若曰.

improve its inside, 改善其內部 (意即增加知識).

in fact, 在事實上.

does not care a bit, 毫不留意.

P. 2. rhetoric, 修詞學.

phonetics, 語音學.

literary history, 文學史.

versification, 詩學.

Talking of, 今既論及....

wonder, 不知; 不解.

pidgin English, 洋涇浜英語. (一種中國人與歐美人間所用之極不純正之英語, "pidgin" 原係 "business" 之轉誤.)

by the way, 偶然說及.

To return to, 回至; 再說.

as often as, 每次.

remind, 提醒.

make so much of, 如是重視.

shampooed, 擦洗.

singed, 燙.

that's (=that is) all, 如是而已.

if, 纔.

Emerging, 走出.

heave a sigh of relief, 因得安慰而歎息.

DO YOU ENJOY THE TELEPHONE?

Some time ago I talked to you about slavery in a barber's shop. Today I will talk about another form of slavery: I mean being a slave to the telephone.

If you have seen telephoning° in the movies° but have never talked on the telephone yourself, you cannot possibly know the meaning of being a slave to the telephone. On the screen° the telephonic system° is a perfect one. The man, or the woman, just snatches the receiver° and speaks, "Hullo...yes...please...all right...thank you...good-bye". There seems to be no delay, no indistinctness° of sound, no wrong number, no "engaged"°—in a word,° no slavery.

In real life, however, telephoning is quite a different thing. The number is often wrong, though oftener right. The right number is often "engaged", though oftener not "engaged".

Granting° that the number is right and is not "engaged", still° there is much slavery. "I wish to speak to Mr Wang", you say. But you get the reply "Here we have no Mr Fang". "I wish to speak to Mr Wang", you say again, with emphasis° on *Wang*. But you get the reply "Here we've° twenty Wangs". "I mean Mr A. B. Wang", you say. But you get the reply "Here we've two Mr A. B. Wangs". "I mean the one who is rather tall but not very tall, who sometimes wears a blue silk gown but always a low-crowned° hat, and who is a native of Shanghai", you

say. But you get the reply “And may I know your name”? You say your name three or four times and then wait, wait, wait.^o When waiting, you are a perfect^o slave. You are not allowed to read a book, nor to write a letter, nor to have a cup of tea, nor even to build castles in the air.^o You can only imagine how the man at the other end of the line^o is going to tell Mr A. B. Wang and how Mr A. B. Wang is hastening to the telephone.

At last, fortunately, you hear Mr A. B. Wang speaking. Then you two begin to talk—but I do not think so easily as those in the movies. Indistinctness of sound, repetition, misunderstanding,^o annoyance^o—all these are highly probable.

I am glad that I do not often have to talk on the telephone. I wonder why some people like to telephone as often as they have the least occasion.^o I know a little boy who rings up^o his father in his office more than ten times a day. Of course,^o he enjoys doing it.

NOTES

P. 4. telephone, 電話機; 電話.

telephoning, 打電話.

movies, 電影.

screen, 銀幕.

telephonic system, 電話之組織.

snatches the receiver, 執住聽筒.

indistinctness, 不清晰; 糊塗.

“engaged”, 有人正在打電話 (謂此號今有人用也).

in a word, 總而言之.

granting, 假定.

still, 仍; 但.

emphasis, 著重.

we've—we have.

low-crowned, 低頂的.

P. 5. wait, wait, wait, 繼續等待.

perfect, 完全的; 純粹的.

build castles in the air, 冥想; 空想.

line, 電綫.

misunderstanding, 誤解.

annoyance, 煩惱.

have the least occasion, 雖祇有極微之理由.

rings up, 用電話喚.

of course, 當然.

GETTING AND LOSING

Once I lost a small dictionary only a few days after I bought it. A short time later I got a letter from a friend informing me of his being jilted by his sweetheart.° In reply I remember I wrote something like this:

I am very sorry to learn that you have lost your sweetheart. I also have a loss to tell you of; that is,° I have recently lost a small dictionary, which I bought but a fortnight ago.°

You want me to console° you? Well, losing things is common enough, and losing a sweetheart is no exception.° So far as I can see,° the only way not to lose a thing is not to get it. If I had not bought the small dictionary, I could not possibly have lost it. I have never had a sweetheart, and so° I have never had the sad experience of losing one.

What do you think of my opinion, reader? Don't think that I wrote the letter in jest.° I was perfectly serious.° I meant what I said.° All we have may be lost at any moment—and for ever.° One may lose one's life when one least expects it.° A clerk may lose his position when he counts on° promotion. A girl may lose her chastity° when she thinks she has most force of character° among her friends.

As soon as you come into possession of° something, you begin to run the risk of° losing it. By something I mean everything; it may be a dictionary, a fountain-pen,° a reputation,° a friendship, a love, and so forth.°

A student of mine lost an umbrella in a tram-car° the other day.° I am glad that he does not seem to have lost the few rhetorical principles° that I had explained to him only two or three days before he lost his umbrella.

NOTES

P. 7. jilted by his sweetheart, 爲其愛人所棄.

that is, 卽謂.

but a fortnight ago, 僅二星期以前.

console, 安慰.

exception, 例外.

So far as I can see, 就我所知.

so, 故; 所以 (此字應重讀).

in jest, 藉戲.

serious, 認真的; 非說笑話的.

meant what I said, 意與言合.

for ever, 永遠.

least expects it, 最不希望之; 以爲決不臨到此事.

counts on, 預費.

chastity, 貞操.

force of character, 品性之力量; 自持之力.

come into possession of, 得到.

run the risk of..., 冒...之險.

fountain-pen, 自來水筆.

reputation, 名譽.

and so forth, 以及其他.

P. 8. tram-car, 電車.

the other day, 數日前.

rhetorical principles, 修詞學原理.

A SICK MAN'S THOUGHTS

Owing to° ill health I have not talked to you for a long time I am now well° again, and, fearing the editor° may have been growing° impatient over my delay in sending him my "talks:", have decided upon the above-given subject,° to assure° him—and also you—that I really was a sick man till but a few days ago.

I hasten° to add° that I had only slight attacks of fever° and a cough.° I was not very ill. I was simply poorly,° and too unwell to write.

But if I was too unwell to write, I was yet well enough to think Hence my thoughts.°

As is often said,° one does not realize° the value of health till one is taken ill.° Needless to say,° my chief thought during my indisposition° was how to get over° it. I tried to account for° it in several ways, and regretted° having stayed too late at a friend's house on a certain° night, having gone out too early on a certain morning, having walked too much on certain days, and, having....

I thought a great deal° besides.° Perhaps one cannot afford° to spend whole days thinking and thinking° except when ill in bed. Then one thinks and thinks; for the only thing one then can do is to think—if one can then think at all. During my recent illness, I thought of many things that I do not usually think of. I thought of particular little incidents° in my early childhood, of particular passages° in books that I had read long before, of particular faces I had seen, and of....

Nor did I think altogether aimlessly and carelessly. I thought seriously of life and its problems. I thought of the most serious thing in my mind—the reading and writing of books. I considered what an ideal° series of English readers for Chinese students should be. I planned (of course merely mentally°) a handbook° of English composition for Chinese college students that should teach them to write English as Englishmen write it.

I wonder I did not think much of any of my favourite authors° during my last illness. Last year, when I was laid up with a cold,° I used to think so much of Burns° and Blake° that I dreamt of them in the night.

NOTES

P. 9. owing to, 因.

well, 健全的.

editor, 主筆.

growing, 變.

subject, 題.

assure..., 向...鄭重聲明.

hasten, 趕快.

add, 加言.

slight attacks of fever, 寒熱病之小襲擊; 小寒熱.

cough, 咳嗽.

poorly, 身體不適的.

Hence my thoughts, 故有我(下文所述)之思想.

As is often said, 有如人所常言者.

realize, 知.

taken ill, 起病.

Needless to say, 不必說.

indisposition, 小病.

get over..., 由...復原.

account for..., 說明...之理由.

regretted, 悔.

certain, 某.

a great deal, 多.

besides, 除此以外.

cannot afford, 不能; 不會得.

thinking and thinking, 繼續思想.

incidents, 事.

passages, 文字之片段.

P. 10. ideal, 理想的, 完美的.

mentally, 在心上.

handbook, 小書.

favourite authors, 喜讀之作家.

was laid up with a cold, 因傷風而臥.

Burns, 即 Robert Burns, 蘇格蘭詩人, 生於一七五九年, 卒於一七九六年.

Blake, 即 William Blake, 英國詩人, 生於一七五七年, 卒於一八二七年.

BUYING SECOND-HAND° BOOKS

Money being no consideration,° perhaps no-one would prefer second-hand clothes to° new clothes or second-hand furniture° to new furniture. But we must not jump at the same conclusion° in regard to° books—and women. One may seek twenty excuses° to break off an engagement° for the purpose of marrying, or “keeping”,° a woman who has either buried° or divorced° her fifth husband. One may also fall in love with a “ragged veteran”° at first sight° and keep it for God knows how long.°

Not being here concerned with° women, let us imagine a hard° student parting with° a favourite book° for his next meal. The book has its pages badly thumbled,° and probably its binding° somewhat loosened, but it bears° its owner’s signature,° the date of its being bought (and maybe also that of its being sold), and his copious notes and comments.° Another hard student (but by no means° so hard up° as the first student) sees it at a second-hand book-shop, opens it, reads it here and there,° finds it interesting, looks at it again and again, talks (mentally) with it, thinks of its fate,° takes pity on it, and falls in love with it. Having inquired the price, he buys it. Having bought it, he carries it home. Having carried it home, he reads it and caresses° it, and caresses it and reads it.

Have you ever had such an experience? Do you believe me when I say one may prefer a second-hand

book to a brand-new^o copy of the same book? It seems to me that while new books are mere things, second-hand books are personalities^o.

I have to add, however, that in saying so I have had only literary books in mind^o. Dictionaries, scientific treatises,^o grammars,^o and all sorts of text-books cannot develop a personality. They are the best when the newest. If I sometimes buy a second-hand dictionary, it is because money is^o a consideration with me. It is cheap, and I hold it cheap.^o

NOTES

P. 12. Second-hand, 已經他人用過的; 舊的.

Money being no consideration, 在並無金錢問題之時 (意即在不必省錢之時).

prefer...to..., 愛...而不愛

furniture, 家具.

jump at the same conclusion, 貿然得到同樣之結論.

in regard to, 關於.

seek twenty excuses, 利用許多託詞.

break off an engagement, 解除婚約.

"keeping"... , 與... 姘.

buried, 葬.

divorced..., 與... 離婚.

"ragged veteran", 穿破衣之老兵 (指舊書).

fall in love with...at first sight, 與...一見

God knows how long, 無人知如何長久.

concerned with, 論及.

hard, 勤奮的.

parting with, 賣去.

favourite book, 喜讀之書.

thumbed, 被擗指弄污.

binding, 裝釘.