

# 荀 傳 架

英文  
隨  
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Hertz C. K. Kê

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# 序

余幼时诵方望溪姚姬传刘大櫟诸先生所为古文辞，窃喜其意在言外，淡而弥永，至于循玩不忍释手。长习英吉利文字，仍嗜读其隽逸有神味者。求诸国内殆鲜其人；有之自嘉定葛君传槩始。葛君夙赋天稟，又能力学不倦。骤聆其言论，似尚诡辩，多偏见；然静焉思之，确有至理存乎其间。譬食谏果，初甚涩口，终则齿颊间津津有余味也。其为文善取不伦不类者以为比，轻描淡写，寓讽深刻。余尝拟为英文之桐城派，英文学者中之东方生。虽人事百忙，读之便觉大快。君邃于英文规范，故为文清新纯正，不落恒蹊；论文往往多独到处。生平著述极富，所作《致友人书》及《英文学生日记》，尤风行海内。兹更汇其生平所作，付梓问世；以余相知较深，驰书索言，因泚笔而乐为之序。

苏兆龙

## 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. Kê

December, 1936

## 说明

《葛传槩英文随笔》所收文章均出自《葛传槩英文集》(Man and Student)第二集。《葛传槩英文集》第一集和第三集的文章分别收入《葛传槩英文书信序言选编》和《葛传槩英文学习法》中。

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## IN A BARBER'S SHOP<sup>1</sup>

As soon as<sup>2</sup> you enter a barber's shop, you lose your freedom.<sup>3</sup> You are not to regain<sup>4</sup> it till you have paid for it after a full hour's slavery.<sup>5</sup>

Well,<sup>6</sup> you may not wish to call it slavery. You may call it enjoyment. Many persons call it enjoyment; perhaps they enjoy slavery. Drunkards<sup>7</sup> enjoy being slaves to drink.<sup>8</sup> Young lovers enjoy being slaves of their sweethearts' caprices.<sup>9</sup> And many persons enjoy being slaves to a barber once a week!

I, for one,<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> For I have to resign<sup>12</sup> myself, and especially that important part of myself, the head, to the control of an ignorant<sup>13</sup> or at least ill-educated<sup>14</sup> barber (I beg barbers' pardon). He turns about my head as though<sup>15</sup> it were his own instead of mine. He sometimes offers me a newspaper as much as to say,<sup>16</sup> "While I improve the outside of your head for you, you ought to improve its inside<sup>17</sup> yourself". But in fact<sup>18</sup>, he does not care a bit<sup>19</sup> about what is in my head. He treats my head, which contains a knowledge of English grammar, rhetoric,<sup>20</sup> phonetics,<sup>21</sup> literary history,<sup>22</sup> versification,<sup>23</sup> etc., in the same way as any head that does not contain a single word

of English.

Talking of<sup>24</sup> English, I wonder<sup>25</sup> why the barbers in some fashionable shops in Shanghai often speak English — surely pidgin English<sup>26</sup> — among themselves. But this is by the way.<sup>27</sup>

To return to<sup>28</sup> the question of slavery. I feel my slavery more keenly as often as<sup>29</sup> I look into the glass before me. Is it not enough to make a slave of me? Is it necessary to remind<sup>30</sup> me that I am a slave?

I am glad that I do not make so much of<sup>31</sup> my hair as to require it to be shampooed<sup>32</sup> or singed<sup>33</sup> in a barber's shop. I want to have my hair cut, and have it cut, that's all.<sup>34</sup> Thus, if<sup>35</sup> I have to be a slave once every three or four weeks, my period of slavery is always a short one.

Emerging<sup>36</sup> from a barber's shop, I often heave a sigh of relief.<sup>37</sup>

## NOTES

1. barber's shop: 理发店
2. as soon as: 一俟
3. lose my freedom: 失去我之自由
4. are not to regain: 不可复得
5. a full hour's slavery: 足有一小时之奴隶生活
6. well: 语气助词
7. drunkards: 酒徒
8. enjoy being slaves to drink: 以耽于狂饮为乐

9. their sweethearts' caprices: 彼等之情人之任性
10. for one: 就我个人而言
11. dignity: 尊严
12. resign: 抛弃
13. ignorant: 无知识的
14. ill-educated: 教育不良的
15. as though: 宛如
16. as much as to say: 若曰
17. improve its inside: 改善其内部 (意即增加知识)
18. in fact: 在事实上
19. does not care a bit: 毫不留意
20. rhetoric: 修辞学
21. phonetics: 语音学
22. literary history: 文学史
23. versification: 诗学
24. Talking of: 今既论及……
25. wonder: 不知; 不解
26. pidgin English: 洋泾浜英语 (一种中国人与欧美人间所用之极不纯正之英语, “pidgin” 原系 “business” 之转误)
27. by the way: 偶然说及
28. To return to: 回至; 再说
29. as often as: 每次
30. remind: 提醒
31. make so much of: 如是重视
32. shampooed: 用洗发水洗

- 33. singed: 烫
- 34. that's (= that is) all: 如是而已
- 35. if: 虽
- 36. Emerging: 走出
- 37. heave a sigh of relief: 因得安慰而叹息

## DO YOU ENJOY THE TELEPHONE?<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> in the movies<sup>3</sup> but have never talked on the telephone yourself, you cannot possibly know the meaning of being a slave to the telephone. On the screen<sup>4</sup> the telephonic system<sup>5</sup> is a perfect one. The man, or the woman, just snatches the receiver<sup>6</sup> and speaks, "Hullo ... yes ... please ... all right ... thank you ... good-bye". There seems to be no delay, no indistinctness<sup>7</sup> of sound, no wrong number, no "engaged"<sup>8</sup> — in a word,<sup>9</sup> 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<sup>10</sup> that the number is right and is not "engaged", still<sup>11</sup> 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<sup>12</sup> on *Wang*. But you get the reply "Here we've<sup>13</sup> 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<sup>14</sup> 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.<sup>15</sup> When waiting, you are a perfect<sup>16</sup> 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.<sup>17</sup> You can only imagine how the man at the other end of the line<sup>18</sup> 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,<sup>19</sup> annoyance<sup>20</sup> — 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.<sup>21</sup> I know a little boy who rings up<sup>32</sup> his father in his office more than ten times a day. Of course,<sup>23</sup> he enjoys doing it.

## NOTES

1. telephone: 电话机; 电话
2. telephoning: 打电话
3. movies: 电影
4. screen: 银幕
5. telephonic system: 电话之组机
6. snatches the receiver: 执住听筒

7. indistinctness: 不清爽; 糊涂
8. engaged: 有人正在打电话 (即电话占线)
9. in a word: 总而言之
10. granting: 假定
11. still: 仍; 但
12. emphasis: 着重
13. we've = we have
14. low-crowned: 低冠的
15. wait, wait, wait: 继续等待
16. perfect: 完全的; 纯粹的
17. build castles in the air: 冥想; 空想
18. line: 电线
19. misunderstanding: 误解
20. annoyance: 烦恼
21. have the least occasion: 虽只有极微之理由
22. rings up: 用电话唤
23. of course: 当然



## 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.<sup>1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup> I have recently lost a small dictionary, which I bought but a fortnight ago.<sup>3</sup>*

*You want me to console<sup>4</sup> you? Well, losing things is common enough, and losing a sweetheart is no exception.<sup>5</sup> So far as I can see,<sup>6</sup> 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<sup>7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup> I was perfectly serious.<sup>9</sup> I meant what I said.<sup>10</sup> All we have may be lost at any moment — and for ever.<sup>11</sup> One may lose one's life when one least expects it.<sup>12</sup> A clerk may lose his position when he counts on<sup>13</sup> promotion. A girl may lose her chastity<sup>14</sup> when she thinks she has most force of character<sup>15</sup> among her friends.