

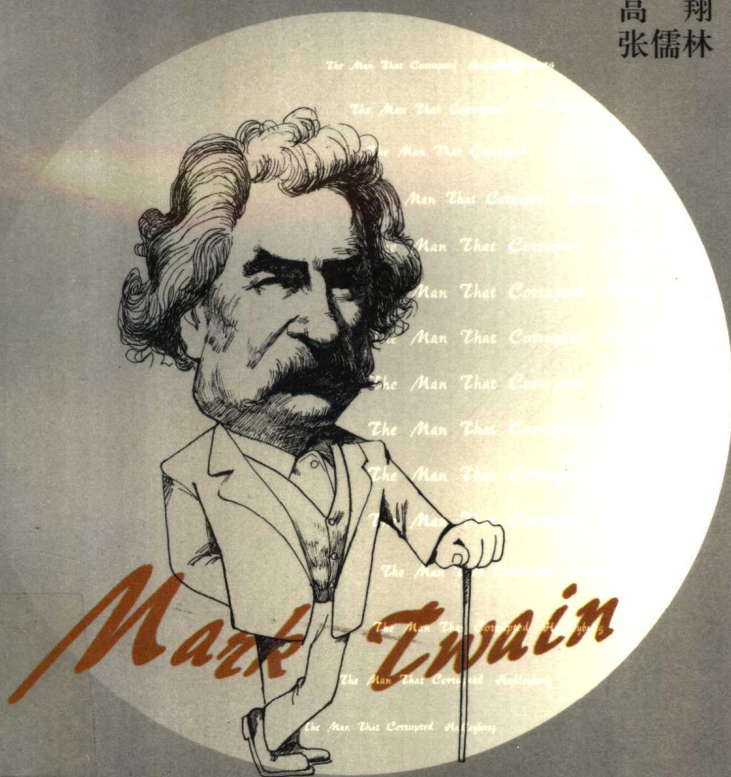
美国著名作家名篇选注之 · 1 ·

败坏了哈德莱堡的人

Mark Twain

马克·吐温集

高翔 编注
张儒林 审校



北京大学出版社

美国著名作家名篇选注之一

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前 言

当前我国正在大步走向世界,学好外国语、了解他国的文化和人民就显得十分重要了。根据经验,我们认为读些外国文学原作是达到这一目的的一种有效手段,因为作为讲述生活体验的文学不但具有丰富的文化、历史和心理内涵,而且还显示出语言的千变万化。这就是我们编注美国作家短篇故事系列读物的动机。

本系列选注的是 19 世纪后半叶到 20 世纪初的四位现实主义作家的作品。按写作年代排列第一册是马克·吐温集,第二册是杰克·伦敦集,第三册是欧·亨利集,第四册是亨利·詹姆斯集。选文标准是能够反映作者各个创作时期的代表性文章。

本系列适于大学英语专业二年级以上的学生或具有全国大学英语四级以上水平的读者。每页原文后附脚注,列出超四级考试词汇表的单词及其发音、词性和在文章中的意思。全文后附尾注,对超出四级水平的难句、短语、俚语等加以说明和举例。各篇选文前附有该故事梗概和特点介绍。每集开头处附该作家简介,以飨爱好文学的读者。

各集的作家简介和文前说明均由编选者撰写,参加注释工作的如一集中有一人以上的情况则在每篇篇尾写明注释者姓名。

本系列既可用做泛读材料,也可供自学之用。希望这套读物能使读者受益并能得到读者欢迎。

如有错误和疏漏,欢迎批评指正。

李淑言

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马克·吐温简介

马克·吐温(Mark Twain, 1835—1910), 原名塞缪尔·兰赫恩·克莱门斯(Samuel Langhorne Clemens), 19 世纪下半叶美国著名小说家。1835 年 11 月 30 日出生于密苏里州门罗县佛罗里达镇。父亲约翰·马夏尔·克莱门斯, 为人严谨, 宗教上思想自由, 是一个地方小法官, 稍有田产。母亲简恩·兰普顿·克莱门斯, 是长老会教徒, 但不十分狂热。马克·吐温既继承了他父亲老实与虔诚的品质, 又继承了他母亲善良与勇气的品质。

但在马克·吐温 12 岁那年, 他父亲因病突然去世, 自此家境贫寒。为摆脱生活困境, 全家迁移到密西西比河边的小镇——汉尼巴尔。为了谋生, 他先后当过印刷所学徒、排字工人、领航员、金矿工人和新闻记者。他近似流浪的劳动生活, 尤其他当领航员的那段生涯, 无疑是另一种大学, 使他熟悉并仔细研究过各式各样的人物性格和社会现实, 给他打下了坚实的生活基础。1863 年, 他开始以“马克·吐温”的笔名在报上发表以描写密西西比河水手生活为主要题材的幽默小品, 以此开始了他的文学生涯。“马克·吐温”一词是水手们的行话“十二英尺”, 意思是水够深了, 轮船可以通过。由此可见, 马克·吐温的笔名与他在密西西比河上的生活经历有着千丝万缕的联系。

马克·吐温的文学作品, 从其创作的内容与倾向性来分, 一般可分为六类。第一类是以美国民间传统故事为小说的基本素材, 经作者的艺术加工后写出的。1865 年问世的马克·吐温的第一部短篇小说《卡拉维拉斯县的驰名跳蛙》便属于这一类。这部作品写得非常轻松幽默, 迎合了广大读者的趣味。故事原来是在酒店里流传

的笑话,经作者运用其出色的幽默才华和口语风格进行改编后,作品一下子就成了美国文学里边疆幽默故事的代表作。属于这一类的短篇小说还有:《罗马卡庇托尔博物馆的维纳斯神像》、《麦克威廉士夫妇对膜性喉炎的经验》、《麦克威廉士太太和闪电》、《斯托姆斐尔德船长天国游记摘录》等。

第二类作品是直接取材于美国的社会现实,经过认真观察截取典型题材写成的,也可以把它们视为社会讽刺批判作品。这一类作品有:《竞选州长》、《田纳西的新闻界》、《百万英镑》、《败坏了哈德莱堡的人》、《三万元的遗产》等。《竞选州长》发表于美国南北战争结束后五年。当时北方的投机商、南方的奴隶主、三K党徒仍在横行霸道,胡作非为。虽然美国国会通过了一系列的法令法案,但写在纸上的是一回事,实际做的则是另一回事。这便是这部作品产生的背景。

第三类是以支持、同情受压迫的民族和人民及反对种族歧视为主题的作品,如《高尔斯密士的朋友再度出洋》、《一个真实的故事》、《给坐在黑暗中的人》、《施私刑者的合众国》等。《高尔斯密士的朋友再度出洋》是由数封信组成的讽刺短篇。马克·吐温采用了18世纪英国小说家高尔斯密士的体裁,作品以一个出洋到美国的中国人艾颂喜写给他朋友信的口吻叙述了他被骗到美国后的种种遭遇。作者在作品中表露了对艾颂喜质朴、忠厚、老实性格的同情,同时戳穿了美国自由神话的虚伪性和欺骗性,并揭露了美国的种族歧视政策。

第四类是一些带有自传成分的作品,如《艰苦的岁月》、《密西西比河上》等。《密西西比河上》是作家对早年水手生活的回顾。作品真实而生动地再现了当年舵工们劳动生活的画面,也是作者热爱劳动、向往自由的真实写照。

第五类作品属于旅行札记,如《傻子国外旅行记》、《赤道环游记》等。《傻子国外旅行记》是马克·吐温于1867年6月随“贵格城

游览”号客轮出海旅游时写的 50 篇旅行通讯集，并于 1869 年发表。在这本书中，马克·吐温仍以其幽默的笔调，在描写沿途见闻的同时，讥讽任意摧残无辜百姓的封建暴君和扼杀自由进步思想的宗教法规，对愚昧和伪善也进行了挖苦和揭露。

第六类当属儿童故事，如《汤姆·索耶历险记》、《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》等。应当指出的是，这样的归类不免有些机械简单化，因为马克·吐温一些作品的内容是互相交叉的，很难归类。例如《汤姆·索耶历险记》既被认为是儿童读物，也被认为带有较多的自传成分。而也被认为是儿童读物的《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》又为成年人揭露了社会的阴暗面，可以作多层次的理解。这部被评论家誉为马克·吐温最优秀的作品是马克·吐温用近 8 年的心血写成的。这部作品无论从思想内容或艺术成就来衡量都很成熟。海明威是这样评价这部作品的：“一切现代美国文学都来自一本吐温的著作《哈克贝利·费恩》……这是我们所有书中最好的。一切美国文学都来自这本书。在它之前或之后都不曾有过同它相媲美的作品。”该作品被公认为是马克·吐温的代表作。

马克·吐温是一位勤奋多产的作家，一生著作颇丰。直到最近，美国加州大学还整理出版了他的一些从未出版的作品和书信等。

在马克·吐温的晚年，家庭生活接连发生不幸：他的两个女儿相继去世，她的妻子也因病过世。这使他的心情越来越阴郁。1910 年，他终于积劳成疾，倒在榻上。4 月 21 日，这位伟大的作家溘然长逝了，终年 75 岁。

马克·吐温的主要创作艺术特色是：

一、幽默讽刺的艺术风格。马克·吐温将深刻的幽默与辛辣的讽刺相结合，优美的抒情与尖锐的政论相结合。他的幽默还有不协调和夸张的特点，因而他能成功地运用漫画式的夸张手法使被讽刺的对象显得更加滑稽可笑。由于他能把握好讽刺的生命在于

真实的原则，所以他将那些可笑、可鄙、可恶的现象集中起来，加以概括、提炼，使之典型化，让它们在怪诞中又现出真实。文学是语言的艺术。作为语言大师的马克·吐温能十分娴熟地处理好语言选择、提炼和运用之间的关系，他艺术上最大的特点是运用口语体和方言进行写作，极力反对那种陈腐庸俗、矫揉造作及说教式语言。因此，他的作品读起来真切动人，既饱含幽默诙谐，又不乏巨大的讽刺。有人将他作品比作能擦出眼泪的幽默魔巾，能给人带来酣畅的笑声与心灵的震颤是不无道理的。

二、曲折离奇的情节结构。马克·吐温的作品情节一般都构思奇特、出人意料。尤其在读他的一些名著时，更能使人感受到这些作品的艺术结构是独具匠心的。在他的有些作品中，马克·吐温还用第一人称“我”的口气来叙述。这虽然含有作者의思想和性格，但决不等于作者自己。这是增强作品真实性的一种艺术手段。

三、深刻细腻的心理描写。马克·吐温被誉为心理描写小说的鼻祖。他对作品中人物内心世界的描写既细腻又富有个性。他一般不直接对他的人物做孤立的、静止的心理描写，而是通过人物直接披露心理活动。在长篇小说《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》中，马克·吐温把哈克的矛盾心理及思想发展描写得十分自然、真实。

同世界上所有伟大作家一样，马克·吐温的杰出地位是在经历了历史的考验和人民的公认之后确立起来的。他的创作极大地启发了一大批忠于人民、忠于艺术的真正的现实主义小说家，为世界文学作出了杰出的贡献。他被称为美国现实主义文学之父是当之无愧的，他在作品中所表现出来的幽默讽刺艺术永远成为人类的瑰宝。他的著作已被译成多种语言，深受世界各国人民的喜爱。马克·吐温的作品不仅已成为美国和西方文化传统的一个重要组成部分，而且是世界文学宝库里的璀璨明珠。

马克·吐温对中国人民有着深厚的情谊。中国人民永远不会忘记他 1900 年 11 月 23 日在纽约的讲话：“为什么不让中国人摆

脱那些外国人，他们尽是在她的土地上捣乱。如果他们都能回到老家去，中国这个国家将是中国人多么美好的地方啊！”在中国，马克·吐温的著作早在1905年就有译本。1931年鲁迅曾为《夏娃日记》(1905)写了前言。由此可见，马克·吐温在中国享有何等高的威望。

本书所选的12部作品是马克·吐温各个创作时期的名著名篇，基本上是按故事文字理解由易到难的顺序排列。

败坏了哈德莱堡的人

故事发生在“诚实”、“清高”的好名声已保持三代之久的哈德莱堡镇。这是一个作者虚构的市镇。这个镇得罪了一个外乡人，他下决心要进行报复。他送来了一袋金币，说是送给曾帮助过他的一个不知姓名的恩人。于是镇上19位“首要公民”都做起黄金梦来。在金币的引诱下，他们不顾祖传的荣誉，展开了一场激烈的明争暗斗。他们眼热这袋金币，争着要当恩人，却又要维护“廉洁”的外表，在众人面前竞相出丑。作者紧紧扣住他们既想当婊子，又要立牌坊的内心矛盾，揭露和讽刺了资产阶级道德的虚伪。原来他们自诩为“诚实、清高”的好名声，只不过是為了遮掩自己贪婪本性的遮羞布罢了，马克·吐温的这篇小说无疑是刺向他们的一把利剑，戳穿了“世代光荣的最后一块遮羞布”。最具讽刺意味的是：一直被刻在小镇官印上的格言——“请勿让我们受诱惑”，也改成了“请让我们受诱惑”，一字之差，作者表现其中的寓意却是何等深刻！小说构思巧妙，结构严密，富有戏剧性。

本文首次发表于1899年。

The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg

1

It was many years ago. Hadleyburg was the most honest and upright town in all the region around about. It had kept that reputation unsmirched^① during three generations, and was prouder of it than of any other of its possessions. It was so proud of it, and so anxious to insure its perpetuation^②, that it began to teach the principles of honest dealing to its babies in the cradle, and made the like teachings the staple^③ of their culture thenceforward^④ through all the years devoted to their education. Also, throughout the formative^⑤ years temptations were kept out of the way of the young people, so that their honesty could have every chance to harden and solidify^⑥, and become a part of their very bone. The neighboring towns were jealous of this honorable supremacy^⑦, and affected to sneer at Hadleyburg's pride in it and call it vanity; but all the same they were obliged to acknowledge that Hadleyburg was in reality an incorruptible town; and if pressed^[1] they would also acknowledge that the mere fact that a young man hailed from^[2] Hadleyburg was all the recommenda-

① unsmirched [ˌʌn'smɜ:tʃt] *a.* 清洁的, (名誉等) 未受玷污的

② perpetuation [pəˌpetju'eɪʃən] *n.* 永存, 不朽

③ staple ['steɪpl] *n.* 要项, 主题

④ thenceforward [ˈðens'fɔ:wəd] *ad.* 从那时

⑤ formative [ˈfɔ:mətɪv] *a.* 成长的, 发展的

⑥ solidify [səˈlɪdɪfaɪ] *v.* 充实, 巩固

⑦ supremacy [ˈsjuːpreməsi] *n.* 无上权威

tion he needed when he went forth from his natal^① town to seek for responsible employment.

But at last, in the drift of time, Hadleyburg had the ill luck to offend a passing stranger—possibly without knowing it, certainly without caring, for Hadleyburg was sufficient unto^② itself, and cared not a rap^[3] for strangers or their opinions. Still, it would have been well to make an exception^[4] in this one's case, for he was a bitter man and revengeful. All through his wanderings during a whole year he kept his injury in mind, and gave all his leisure moments to trying to invent a compensating^③ satisfaction for it. He contrived^④ many plans, and all of them were good, but none of them was quite sweeping^⑤ enough; the poorest of them would hurt a great many individuals, but what he wanted was a plan which would comprehend the entire town, and not let so much as one person escape unhurt. At last he had a fortunate idea, and when it fell into his brain it lit up his whole head with an evil joy. He began to form a plan at once, saying to himself, "That is the thing to do—I will corrupt the town."

Six months later he went to Hadleyburg, and arrived in a buggy^⑥ at the house of the old cashier^⑦ of the bank about ten at night. He got a sack out of the buggy, shouldered it, and staggered^⑧ with it through the cottage yard, and knocked at the door. A woman's voice said "Come in," and he entered, and set his sack behind the stove in the parlor, saying politely to the old lady who sat reading the *Missionary Herald*^[5] by the lamp:

-
- ① natal ['neɪtl] *a.* 出生的, 诞生的
② unto [元音前 'Antu, 辅音前 'Antə] = to, 但不能用作不定式符号
③ compensating ['kɒmpənseɪtɪŋ] *a.* 补偿损失的
④ contrive [kən'traɪv] *v.* 创制, 设计
⑤ sweeping ['swi:pɪŋ] *a.* 彻底的
⑥ buggy ['bʌɡi] *n.* 无盖二轮马车
⑦ cashier [kæ'ʃiə] *n.* 出纳员
⑧ stagger ['stæɡə] *v.* 蹒跚, 摇晃

“Pray keep your seat^[6], madam, I will not disturb you. There—now it is pretty well concealed; one would hardly know it was there. Can I see your husband a moment, madam?”

“No, he was gone to Brixton, and might not return before morning.”

“Very well, madam, it is no matter. I merely wanted to leave that sack in his care, to be delivered to the rightful owner when he shall be found. I am a stranger; he does not know me; I am merely passing through the town to-night to discharge a matter which has been long in my mind. My errand^① is now completed, and I go pleased and a little proud^[7], and you will never see me again. There is a paper attached to the sack which will explain everything. Good night, madam.”

The old lady was afraid of the mysterious big stranger, and was glad to see him go. But her curiosity was roused, and she went straight to the sack and brought away the paper. It began as follows:

TO BE PUBLISHED; or, *the right man sought out by private inquiry—either will answer*^②. *This sack contains gold coin weighing a hundred and sixty pounds four ounces—*

“Mercy on us^[8], and the door not locked!”

Mrs. Richards flew to it all in a tremble and locked it, then pulled down the window-shades and stood frightened, worried, and wondering if there was anything else she could do toward^③ making herself and the money more safe. She listened awhile for burglars, then surrendered to curiosity and went back to the lamp and finished reading the paper:

① errand ['erənd] *n.* 差事

② answer *v.* 适用, 符合要求

③ toward *prep.* 为, 有助于

I am a foreigner, and am presently going back to my own country, to remain there permanently. I am grateful to America for what I have received at her hands during my long stay under her flag; and to one of her citizens—a citizen of Hadleyburg—I am especially grateful for a great kindness done me a year or two ago. Two great kindnesses, in fact. I will explain. I was a gambler. I say I was a ruined gambler. I arrived in this village at night hungry and without a penny. I asked for help—in the dark; I was ashamed to beg in the light. I begged of the right man. He gave me twenty dollars—that is to say, he gave me life, as I considered it. He also gave me fortune; for out of that money I have made myself rich at the gaming-table^①. And finally, a remark which he made to me has remained with me to this day, and has at last conquered me; and in conquering has saved the remnant^② of my morals; I shall gamble no more. Now I have no idea who that man was, but I want him found, and I want him to have this money, to give away, throw away, or keep, as he pleases. It is merely my way of testifying my gratitude to him. If I could stay, I would find him myself; but no matter, he will be found. This is an honest town, an incorruptible town, and I know I can trust it without fear. This man can be identified by the remark which he made to me; I feel persuaded^③ that he will remember it.

And now my plan is this; If you prefer to conduct the inquiry privately, do so. Tell the contents of this present writing to any one who is likely to be the right man. If he shall answer, 'I am the man; the remark I made was so-and-so,' apply the test—to wit^[9]; open the sack, and in it you will find a sealed envelope containing that remark. If the remark mentioned by the candidate tallies

① gaming-table ['geimɪŋ'teɪbl] n. 赌台

② remnant ['remnənt] n. 剩余, 残留

③ persuaded [pə(:)'sweɪdɪd] a. 确信的

with^[10] it, give him the money, and ask no further questions, for he is certainly the right man.

But if you shall prefer a public inquiry, then publish this present writing in the local paper—with these instructions added, to wit; Thirty days from now, let the candidate appear at the town-hall^① at eight in the evening (Friday), and hand his remark, in a sealed envelope, to the Rev. Mr. Burgess (if he will be kind enough to act); and let Mr. Burgess there and then destroy the seals of the sack, open it, and see if the remark is correct; if correct, let the money be delivered with my sincere gratitude, to my benefactor thus identified.

Mrs. Richards sat down, gently quivering with excitement, and was soon lost in thinkings—after this pattern: “What a strange thing it is!... And what a fortune for that kind man who set his bread afloat upon the waters^[11]!... If it had only been my husband that did it! —for we are so poor, so old and poor!...” Then, with a sigh—“But it was not my Edward; no, it was not he that gave a stranger twenty dollars. It is pity, too; I see it now....” Then, with a shudder—“But it is *gambler's* money! the wages of sin; we couldn't take it; we couldn't touch it. I don't like to be near it; it seems a defilement^②.” She moved to a farther chair.... “I wish Edward would come and take it to the bank; a burglar might come at any moment; it is dreadful to be here all alone with it.”

At eleven Mr. Richards arrived, and while his wife was saying, “I am so glad you've come!” he was saying, “I'm so tired—tired clear out; it is dreadful to be poor, and have to make these dismal^③ journeys at my time of life^[12]. Always at the grind,

① town-hall *n.* 镇公所, 市政厅

② defilement [di'faiłmənt] *n.* 肮脏的东西

③ dismal ['dizmə] *a.* 无趣的, 倒霉的

grind, grind, on a salary^[13]—another man's slave, and he sitting at home in his slippers, rich and comfortable. ”

“I am so sorry for you, Edward, you know that; but be comforted; we have our livelihood; we have our good name—”

“Yes, Mary, and that is everything. Don't mind my talk—it's just a moment's irritation^① and doesn't mean anything. Kiss me—there, it's all gone now, and I am not complaining any more. What have you been getting? What's in the sack?”

Then his wife told him the great secret. It dazed him for a moment; then he said:

“It weighs a hundred and sixty pounds? Why, Mary, it's forty thousand dollars—think of it—a whole fortune! Not ten men in this village are worth that much. Give me the paper. ”

He skimmed through it and said:

“Isn't it an adventure! Why, it's a romance^②; it's like the impossible things one reads about in books, and never sees in life. ” He was well stirred up now; cheerful, even gleeful^③. He tapped his old wife on the cheek, and said, humorously, “Why, we're rich, Mary, rich; all we've got to do is to bury the money and burn the papers. If the gambler ever comes to inquire, we'll merely look coldly upon him and say: ‘What is this nonsense you are talking! We have never heard of you and your sack of gold before’; and then he would look foolish, and—”

“And in the mean time, while you are running on^[14] with your jokes, the money is still here, and it is fast getting along toward burglar-time^[15]. ”

“True. Very well, what shall we do—make the inquiry private? No, not that; it would spoil the romance. The public method is better. Think what a noise it will make! And it will make all

① irritation [ˌɪrɪˈteɪʃən] *n.* 激怒, 生气

② romance [rəˈmæns] *n.* 传奇小说

③ gleeful [ˈɡliːfʊl] *a.* 开心的, 极高兴的