



世界文学丛书

新编

加拿大 英语文学选读

NEW CANADIAN ANTHOLOGY IN ENGLISH

杨俊峰 吴杨 代冰



西安交通大学出版社
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY PRESS



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前言

近几年来,各大学的英语语言课程的授课方式和教材选择范围都发生了很大变化,这种变化不仅在英语专业的课堂上反映比较明显,在公共英语以及第二外语的课堂上也反映十分显著。最显而易见的变化是对教材的选择。人所共知,教学质量的好坏除教师因素之外,教材的选择是关键。当今教师和学生对教材的选择更注重实用性,而确定一本教材是否实用的标准是看该教材能否为使用者提供当时和今后所需要的信息和知识。目前在校的大学生语言基本功都不错,他们不再需要句型练习或语法练习,也不再需要为应付考试而死记硬背单词。相比之下,在他们掌握基本交流技巧的情况下,他们更需要了解对象国的文化知识和文化背景,使他们在和对方交流时言之有物,有丰富的交流内容。那么,内容来自何处?答案是教材。《新编加拿大英语文学选读》就是针对这一发展趋势而精心设计的。

多年的教学经验告诉我们,语言的教授离不开文化,因为语言是文化的一个重要组成部分,而文化又因为区域不同致使其内涵不同。如果将英语文化分为英国文化、美国文化、加拿大文化、澳大利亚文化、新西兰文化,那么,我们至少可以说,它们之间存在着巨大的差异。假如想了解加拿大文化,最好的办法就是阅读一些有关加拿大或是由加拿大人写的作品,而最真实最能反映加拿大客观现实的记录之一是文学作品。然而,多年来,人们有这样一种普遍心理:文学作品语言晦涩、内容怪诞。其实文学作品并非都是如此,如果精心挑选,并在挑选之前先设定一些原则,就会选出一些适合中国大学生和英语爱好者的作家和作品,使他们在学习英语的同时了解对象国的文化及文化内涵,最终达到与外国人进行“深层次”交流的目的。

正因为如此,我们在选编之前先制定标准,使每一篇作品都必须有其符合要求明显特征。

第一个标准就是具有可读性。故事的情节及内容应使学生拿得起放不下,能激发他们的兴趣,使他们的思想保持活跃;作品作为整体必须让教师感觉好教,学生感觉好学;语言简洁易懂、情节生动。

第二个标准是有鲜明的创作特点,即所选作品不仅本身有很高的文学价值,而且要能反映作者的一贯创作思想。通过作者的部分作品可以了解作者主要作品的创作方法和手段,铺设一条能将学生引向深入学习和研究的通道。

第三个标准是具有明显的加拿大地方特色,即作品必须能够反映加拿大的文化内涵。所选作品能将读者带入加拿大社会的较深层次,如他们的风俗习

惯、社交礼仪、人际关系、思维方式等，从而去体验加拿大文学所反映的生存之生存的全部主题。

为了使教材便于使用，使其更具操作性，我们在编写过程中突出了以下特点：①在每部作品之前对作者进行介绍，对他们的生平、履历、成就、创作思想等进行评说；②为了适应不同水平学生的需要，激发学生的阅读兴趣，对每位作者和作品都提供汉语的“作者简介”和“故事梗概”，以便使那些刚接触作品感到吃力的学生有个良好的过渡；③短篇故事之后附有启发性的讨论题，一是用来引导和帮助学生理解，二是用来揭示和指出故事本身容易被忽略的细节；④大部分故事之后都附有注释，对那些文化内涵较深的词汇、句子等进行说明。

我们认为，一本好的文学选读当然应该为读者提供文学乐趣和道德以及精神上的启迪，应该提供工作上所需要的一般知识和对短篇小说的鉴赏，但这是远远不够的，一本好的文选还应该教授学生一种对作家和作品进行分析、判断、综合、归纳等的技能，这才更符合我们国家的人才培养目标。书中所提供的对每位作者评论性的简介、每篇故事之后提出的启发性的讨论题和文化注释都是为了达到这一教学目标而设计的。品读作品不仅可以培养和提高学生作品的理解能力和批评能力，通过对作品进行分析和讨论，还可以使学生更好地消化和吸收所学到的文学知识和文化内涵。该书的宗旨就是要培养学生用批评的眼光分析作品，用质量的标准评判作品，把学生培养成充满自信且独立思考的读者，使他们走上工作岗位之后仍能保持这种学习的好奇心。

全书共选取19位作家的30部作品，从第一篇到最后一篇的时间跨度大约近两个世纪，通过学习作品，教师和学生都可以看出语言在实际运用中的巨大变化。第一篇作品选自哈里博顿的《钟表匠》，作于加拿邦联之前。最后一篇作品选自加拿大当代最有影响的妇女作家阿特伍德的《美丽的绿咬鹃》，作于20世纪中叶。尽管在选编过程中我们已经考虑到前面提到过的标准，但仍然不排除其他方面的局限性，如对作家的了解程度、对个别作家的偏爱和文学史家的影响等。因此，在使用该书过程中，如发现不妥之处，希望广大读者提出宝贵意见，以便再版时修正。

为该书所做资料收集和整理工作的还有徐凤娇、张之春、姜楠、刘畅、车文娇、王英伟、尹丹、董妍妍。

杨俊峰

2003年2月于大连

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Thomas C. Haliburton

托马斯·哈里博顿 (1796~1865)



Born in Windsor on 17 Dec 1796, Nova Scotia, Thomas C. Haliburton was educated at King's College. He graduated in 1815, married in the next year, and was called to the bar of Nova Scotia in 1820. He practiced law in Annapolis and in 1826 was elected to represent Annapolis in the Legislative Assembly. Three years later he was appointed a judge of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and in 1841 he was promoted to the Supreme Court of the province. In 1856 he retired and moved to England, where he was elected to the House of Commons in 1859. He retained his seat until his death on 27 Aug 1865.

Haliburton's first book was a pamphlet, *A General Description of Nova Scotia*, published in 1823, which was reprinted by Howe in book form as *The Clockmaker; or The Sayings and Doings of Sam Slick of Slickville* (1836). Haliburton also wrote *The Attaché; or Sam Slick in England* (1843 - 1844) and *Sam Slick's Wise Saws and Modern Instances; or What He Said and Did or Invented* (1853). Next to the first Sam T Slick book, Haliburton's best literary effort is probably *The Old Judge* (1849) in which an Englishman tours Nova Scotia.

Haliburton published twenty-one Sam Slick sketches in *Nova-Scotia Mag-*

azine. Then he turned to satire, creating the character Sam Slick, who makes his points in a series of anecdotes, tall tales, and shrewd comments on human natures. They rely for their humor not so much on the stories themselves, amusing though many of them are, but on the way Sam Slick talks and the distinctive flavor of his monologues—the inventive turns of phrase the witty and pungent sayings, the outrageous puns, all expressed in a comical Yankee dialect.

Haliburton is recognized as one of the founders of Canadian humor. He is rightly regarded as the first fiction writer to exploit regional dialects; the first to use dialog that is colloquial and racy; and the first to define the Maritime (and by extension, the Canadian) character in terms of dual allegiances to American and British roots. Most of his fictions involve a journey into a new country and a first-person narrator, who investigates the new society. At times he uses several narrators in order to milk humor from the clash of perspectives between his characters, the author, and the reader.

作者简介

托马斯·哈里博顿生于加拿大东部新斯科舍省的温泽城。1815年毕业于当地的皇家学院。1820年取得律师资格,并开始从事律师事务。1826年至1829年哈里博顿担任下议院议员。1829年哈里博顿任高等法院法官。1841年任最高法院法官。1856年退休,迁居英国,在伦敦逝世。他是加拿大文学史上第一个享有国际声誉的作家,并有加拿大文学奠基人之称。

哈里博顿的第一部见闻录《新斯科舍概述》于1823年出版。1836年版的《钟表匠》使哈里博顿成为加拿大第一位有国际声誉的作家。这是作者以美国钟匠山姆·斯利克为中心人物创作的讽刺性小品文集,这本畅销书使山姆·斯利克成为家喻户晓的喜剧人物。继以新斯科舍民为读者的《钟表匠(第一卷)》获得成功,哈里博顿又在1838和1840年发表了以英国读者为对象的《钟表匠(第二卷)》和《钟表匠(第三卷)》。在19世纪,《钟表匠》的版本多达80种,可见其影响之广。1843年哈里博顿游历英国,写了《山姆·斯利克在英国》和《山姆·斯利克名言和实录》。《老法官》描绘了一名英国人到新斯科舍的旅行。



The Clockmaker

《钟表匠(第一卷)》收入了21篇讽刺小品,是哈里博顿的代表作。该书描写了一个精明能干、好夸口吹牛的美国商贩山姆·斯利克从事贩表的经历。哈里博顿通过山姆之口,对保守的同胞进行嘲弄和规劝。同时,又描写了斯利克的投机取巧和浮夸善辩。作品的成功在于作者独具一格的写作艺术,将充满幽默讽刺的故事情节融于妙趣横生的对话之中。机敏而耐人寻味的诙谐语言、双关语和北美方言的运用,都为斯利克这个人物增添了情趣和活力。哈里博顿的文笔清晰。他的幽默感和幽默才能使他成为北美幽默艺术的先驱者。

作者以第一人称叙述了自己的一次经历。“我”很好奇钟表商斯利克成功向别人推销钟表的技巧。于是向他请教。斯利克的回答是“投其所好”,他解释人的本性是喜欢别人的恭维和赞赏。我和斯利克一起亲自证实了他的成功秘诀。斯里克来到弗林特家来向弗林特太太告别。他说他的这次行程马上就要结束,剩下的一面钟被别人预定了。而事实上,斯里克来的真正目的就是向弗林特太太推销这面钟。而弗林特太太确实上了斯利克的圈套——以高价买下了这面华而不实的钟。作者嘲讽了新斯科舍人的懒散、怠惰和不求进取的生活作风,同时又描写了斯利克的投机取巧和浮夸善变。

In the first two decades of the nineteenth century Nova Scotia was beset by economic difficulties. Having neglected to make full use of the land and to open up industry—in contrast to the hardworking, go-ahead society to the south—it relied mainly on government patronage for support. To draw attention to the untapped possibilities of the province and the indolence of the people, Haliburton wrote *The Clockmaker*, a series of satirical sketches comprised in large part of the monologues of a Yankee named Sam Slick. A non-stop talker, Sam colourfully expressed his views of the laziness, pride, and greed of the Bluenoses (the name given to Nova Scotians) as he toured the province selling clocks.

I had heard of Yankee clock pedlars, tin pedlars, and Bible pedlars, especially of him who sold *Polyglot Bibles*¹ (*all in English*) to the amount of sixteen thousand pounds. The house of every substantial farmer had three sub-

stantial ornaments: a wooden clock, a tin reflector, and a *Polyglot Bible*. How is it that an American can sell his wares, at whatever price he pleases, where a blue-nose² would fail to make a sale at all? I will inquire of the Clockmaker the secret of his success.

‘What a pity it is, Mr Slick’—for such was his name—‘what a pity it is’, said I, ‘that you, who are so successful in teaching these people the value of clocks, could not also teach them the value of *time*.’

‘I guess,’ said he, ‘they have got that ring to grow on their horns yet, which every four-year-old has in our country. We reckon hours and minutes to be dollars and cents. They do nothing in these parts but eat, drink, smoke, sleep, ride about, lounge at taverns, make speeches at temperance meetings, and talk about “House of Assembly”. If a man don’t hoe his corn, and he don’t get a crop, he says it is all owing to the bank; and if he runs into debt and is sued, why he says the lawyers are a curse to the country. They are a most idle set of folks, I tell you.’

‘But how is it,’ said I, ‘that you manage to sell such an immense number of clocks, which certainly cannot be called necessary articles, among a people with whom there seems to be so great a scarcity of money?’

Mr Slick paused, as if considering the propriety of answering the question, and looking me in the face, said in a confidential tone, ‘Why, I don’t care if I do tell you, for the market is glutted, and I shall quit this circuit. It is done by a knowledge of *soft sawder*³ and *human natur*. But here is Deacon Flint’s,’ said he; ‘I have but one clock left, and I guess I will sell it to him.’

At the gate of a most comfortable—looking farmhouse stood Deacon Flint, a respectable old man who had understood the value of time better than most of his neighbours, if one might judge from the appearance of everything about him. After the usual salutation, an invitation to ‘alight’ was accepted by Mr Slick, who said he wished to take leave of Mrs Flint before he left Colchester.

We had hardly entered the house, before the Clockmaker pointed to the view from the window, and addressing himself to me, said, ‘If I was to tell them in Connecticut⁴ there was such a farm as this away down east here in Nova Scotia, they wouldn’t believe me. Why there ain’t such a location in all New England. The Deacon has a hundred acres of dyke—’

‘Seventy,’ said the Deacon, ‘only seventy.’

'Well, seventy; but then there is your fine deep bottom, why I could run a ramrod into it—'

'Interval, we call it,' said the Deacon, who though evidently pleased at this eulogium, seemed to wish the experiment of the ramrod to be tried in the right place.

'Well, interval if you please—though Professor Eleazer Cumstick, in his work on Ohio, calls them bottoms—is just as good as dyke. Then there is that water privilege, worth three or four thousand dollars, twice as good as what Governor Cass paid fifteen thousand dollars for. I wonder, Deacon, you don't put up a carding mill on it: the same works would carry a turning lathe, a shingle machine, a circular saw, grind bark, and—'

'Too old,' said the Deacon, 'too old for all those speculations—'

'Old,' repeated the Clockmaker, 'not you; why you are worth half a dozen of the young men we see nowadays. You are young enough to have—' Here he said something in a lower tone of voice, which I did not distinctly hear; but whatever it was, the Deacon was pleased. He smiled and said he did not think of such things now.

'But your beasts, dear me, your beasts must be put in and have a feed'; saying which, he went out to order them to be taken to the stable.

As the old gentleman closed the door after him, Mr Slick drew near to me and said in an under tone, 'That is what I call "soft sawder". An Englishman would pass that man as a sheep passes a hog in a pasture, without looking at him; or,' said he, looking rather archly, 'if he was mounted on a pretty smart horse, I guess he'd trot away, if he could. Now I find—' Here his lecture on '*soft sawder*' was cut short by the entrance of Mrs Flint.

'Jist come to say good-bye, Mrs Flint.'

'What, have you sold all your clocks?'

'Yes, and very low, too, for money is scarce, and I wished to close the concern; no, I am wrong in saying all, for I have just one left. Neighbour Steel's wife asked to have the refusal of it, but I guess I won't sell it; I had but two of them, this one and the feller of it that I sold Governor Lincoln. General Green, the Secretary of State for Maine, said he'd give me fifty dollars for this here one—it has composition wheels and patent axles; it is a beautiful article, a real first chop, no mistake, genuine superfine—but I guess I'll take it back;

and besides, Squire Hawk might think kinder harder that I did not give him the offer.'

'Dear me,' said Mrs Flint, 'I should like to see it; where is it?'

'It is in a chest of mine over the way, at Tom Tape's store. I guess he can ship it on to Eastport.'

'That's a good man,' said Mrs Flint, 'jist let's look at it.'

Mr Slick, willing to oblige, yielded to these entreaties and soon produced the clock—a gawdy, highly varnished, trumpery-looking affair. He placed it on the chimney-piece where its beauties were pointed out and duly appreciated by Mrs Flint, whose admiration was about ending in a proposal when Mr Flint returned from giving his directions about the care of the horses. The Deacon praised the clock; he too thought it a handsome one. But the Deacon was a prudent man; he had a watch—he was sorry, but he had no occasion for a clock.

'I guess you're in the wrong furrow this time, Deacon. It ain't for sale,' said Mr Slick; 'and if it was, I reckon neighbour Steel's wife would have it, for she gives me no peace about it.' Mrs Flint said that Mr Steel had enough to do, poor man, to pay his interest, without buying clocks for his wife.

'It's no concern of mine,' said Mr Slick, 'so long as he pays me, what he has to do, but I guess I don't want to sell it, and besides it comes too high; that clock can't be made at Rhode Island under forty dollars. Why it ain't possible,' said the Clockmaker, in apparent surprise, looking at his watch, 'why as I'm alive it is four o'clock, and if I haven't been two hours here. How on airth shall I reach River Philip tonight? I'll tell you what, Mrs Flint, I'll leave the clock in your care till I return on my way to the States. I'll set it agoing and put it to the right time.'

As soon as this operation was performed, he delivered the key to the Deacon with a sort of serio-comic injunction to wind up the clock every Saturday night, which Mrs Flint said she would take care should be done, and promised to remind her husband of it in case he should chance to forget it.

'That,' said the Clockmaker, as soon as we were mounted, 'that I call "*human natur*"! Now that clock is sold for forty dollars; it cost me just six dollars and fifty cents. Mrs Flint will never let Mrs Steel have the refusal, nor will the Deacon learn until I call for the clock that having once indulged in the use

of a superfluity, how difficult it is to give it up. We can do without any article of luxury we have never had, but when once obtained, it is not “*in human nature*” to surrender it voluntarily. Of fifteen thousand sold by myself and partners in this Province, twelve thousand were left in this manner, and only ten clocks were ever returned; when we called for them they invariably bought them. We trust to “*soft sawder*” to get them into the house, and to “*human natur*” that they never come out of it.’

Notes

1. Polyglot Bible: bible containing several versions of the same text in different languages
2. blue-nose: a nickname for Nova Scotians because their nose is often blue out of the coldness
3. soft sawder and human nature: soft flattering words. It’s human nature to like to hear flattering words.
4. Connecticut: a state in the northeast part of the United States. It was admitted as one of the original Thirteen Colonies in 1788. Dutch navigators’ first explored Connecticut’s coastline after 1614, and in 1635 colonists from Massachusetts Bay began to settle in the Connecticut River valley. The Fundamental Orders, a constitution based on the consent of the governed, was adopted by the colony in 1639. Hartford is the capital and Bridgeport the largest city.

Questions

1. What’s the tone of this story?
2. What is the image of the Yankee clockmaker Sam Slick?
3. What is the image of the so-called bluenose?
4. Are the three substantial ornaments necessities?
5. How do you explain the fact that the not-so-well-off people would take such an unnecessary article as the clock?
6. To what extent did the natives understand the value of time and the use of the clock?

Stephen Leacock

斯蒂芬·李科克 (1869~1936)



Stephen Leacock was born in England on December 30, 1869 and was brought to Canada at the age of six by his parents, who settled near Sutton, Ontario. He attended Upper Canada College in Toronto and the University of Toronto. He taught from 1889 to 1899, at the high school in Uxbridge for over a year and then at Upper Canada. In 1899 he became a graduate student at the University of Chicago. He married in 1900 and in 1903, the year he received a Ph. D. ,

he became a lecturer in economics and political science at McGill University in Montreal. He was made head of the department in 1908 and retired, much against his wishes, in 1936. He died on January 10, 1936 at Charlottetown.

Leacock wrote many books on economics, political affairs, and Canadian history but it was novels that brought him worldwide reputation as a humorist. His novels include *Literary Lapses* (1910), which included his best-known piece, 'My Financial Career', *Nonsense Novels*, a book of parodies, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, whose central character is the town of Mariposa—Orillia, Ontario, where Leacock spent his summers and where some citizens were outraged by his unflattering comic portrait. This and *Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich* (1914) are probably his most successful books.

Leacock became famous as a prolific author of humorous sketches in which his gift for controlled exaggeration and an inspired sense of the incongruous have entertained generations of readers. He speared hypocrisy and pretentiousness, shams of all kinds, with wonderful flights of satire, parody, and nonsense.

作者简介

斯蒂芬·李科克出生于英国，六岁时随父母移居加拿大安大略省。在多伦多大学毕业后，他于1903年在美国芝加哥大学获政治经济学博士学位，同年任职于麦吉尔大学。1936年1月10日在夏洛特镇去世。

李科克著有约20本关于经济政治以及加拿大历史的书籍，但给他带来幽默家美誉的还是小说。幽默文集《文学的失误》保持了北美幽默文学的口头文学传统。李科克以幽默而闻名，他的幽默故事深受几代人的喜爱，他擅长用讽刺、模仿的手法来揭露人们的虚伪和做作。



Small Town: Mariposa, Ont

本文摘自《小镇阳光随笔》。玛利波莎小镇这个故事发生的中心地点。所选的章节是《小镇阳光随笔》的开始部分。李科克向读者概括地介绍了玛利波莎小镇。小镇的位置，地理状况，小镇的街道结构以及人口状况，还有这个小镇的忙碌景象。穿过小镇的火车体现了玛利波莎的迅速发展。同时，四季更叠中小镇的形象也展现在读者的面前。这个小镇不论是静态的自然状况还是动态的发展状况都逼真地呈现出来，为故事的发展打下了坚实的基础。比如，“美女号”游轮、史密斯旅馆、教堂的牧师等。

I don't know whether you know Mariposa. If not, it is of no consequence, for if you know Canada at all, you are probably well acquainted with a dozen towns just like it.

There it lies in the sunlight, sloping up from the little lake that spreads out at the foot of the hillside on which the town is built. There is a wharf beside the lake, and lying along side of it a steamer that is tied to the wharf with two ropes of about the same size as they use on the Lusitania¹. The steamer

goes nowhere in particular, for the lake is landlocked and there is no navigation for the Mariposa Belle except to Iron trips' on the first of July and the Queen's Birthday², and to take excursions of the Knights of Pythias³ and the Sons of Temperance⁴ to and from the Local Option Townships⁵.

In point of geography the lake is called Lake Wissanotti and the river running out of it the Ossawippi just as the main street of Mariposa is called Missinaba Street and the county Missinaba County. But these names do not really matter. Nobody uses them. People simply speak of the 'lake' and the 'river' and the 'main street', much in the same way as they always call the Continental Hotel, 'Pete Robinson's' and the Pharmaceutical Hall, 'Eliot's Drug Store'. But I suppose this is just the same in everyone else's town as in mine, so I need lay no stress on it.

The town, I say, has one broad street that runs up from the lake, commonly called the Main Street. There is no doubt about its width. When Mariposa was laid out there was none of that shortsightedness which is seen in the cramped dimensions of Wall Street and Piccadilly. Missinaba Street is so wide that if you were to roll Jeff Thorpe's barbershop over on its face it wouldn't reach halfway across. Up and down the Main Street are telegraph poles of cedar of colossal thickness, standing at a variety of angles and carrying rather more wires than are commonly seen at a transatlantic cable station.

On the Main Street itself are a number of buildings of extraordinary importance—Smith's Hotel and the Continental and Mariposa House, and the two banks (the Commercial and the Exchange), to say nothing of McCarthy's Block (erected in 1878), and Glover's Hardware Store with the Odd fellows' Hall above it. Then on the 'cross' street that intersects Missinaba Street at the main corner there is the Post Office and the Fire Hall and the Young Men's Christian Association and the office of the Mariposa News packet—in fact, to the eye of discernment a perfect jostle of public institutions comparable only to Thread needle Street or Lower Broadway. On all the side streets there are maple trees and broad side walks, trim gardens with upright calla lilies, houses with verandahs, which are here and there being replaced by residences with piazzas.

To the careless eye the scene on the Main Street of a summer afternoon is one of deep and unbroken peace. The empty street sleeps in the sunshine.