

红杉树

名人风景线

[英汉双语]



Neil Champion (英) 著
咸珊珊 译

Charles
DICKENS
狄更斯

外语教学与研究出版社

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北京 BEIJING

京权图字: 01 - 2005 - 1553

Charles Dickens by Neil Champion

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

狄更斯 = Charles Dickens / (英) 钱皮恩 (Champion, N.) 著; 咸珊珊译. — 北京: 外语教学与研究出版社, 2005.8

(名人风景线)

ISBN 7 - 5600 - 5094 - 8

I. 狄… II. ①钱… ②咸… III. 英语—对照读物, 传记—英、汉
IV. H319.4: K

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2005) 第 100107 号

出 版 人: 李朋义

责任编辑: 周小敏

封面设计: 高 鹏

出版发行: 外语教学与研究出版社

社 址: 北京市西三环北路 19 号 (100089)

网 址: <http://www.fltrp.com>

印 刷: 北京画中画印刷有限公司

开 本: 880 × 1230 1/32

印 张: 4

版 次: 2005 年 11 月第 1 版 2005 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7 - 5600 - 5094 - 8

定 价: 10.00 元

* * *

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名人风景线

[英汉双语]

前言

这套书中的“名人”，是那些在各自的领域中创造出不平凡业绩的人。

他们是怎样进入这些领域的？

他们奋斗不已的源泉何在？

他们的成就对社会产生了什么影响？

他们又有着怎样的成长经历？

他们当中，有文豪，有发明家，还有旅行家，每一个人的故事，都是一道亮丽的“风景线”！

本套“名人风景线”丛书以英汉双语形式出现，书中附有大量的历史资料和珍贵照片。对于有一定难度的单词、短语，还添加了简要注释，适合有一定基础的英语学习者阅读。

“The Novelist of His Age”

Charles Dickens is remembered today as one of the greatest and most popular writers of the novel ever to have lived. He has appealed to readers of all kinds, all over the world, since the publication of his first novel in 1836. Nearly all the important people of his day read at least one of his novels—politicians, fellow writers, philosophers and economists, social reformers and so on, as well as the mass of ordinary people who adored Dickens’s writing. Even Queen Victoria was a fan.

The spirit of the age

Dickens captured the spirit of his age in both a profound and entertaining way. He wrote with wit and humour, but he also wrote about the everyday tragedies of life he saw around him. He put these all into the context of Victorian society.

During Dickens’s lifetime, Britain moved from being a rural and agricultural country to being the world’s first industrial giant. This rapid change put enormous strain on all levels of society. Rural farmworkers moved to cities and became the urban poor. Traditional landowners with inherited money were eclipsed by the new factory-owning millionaires. Politicians were struggling to keep up with the demands made by the emerging middle classes, who were becoming increasingly wealthy, mostly at the expense of the poor. There were few laws to help workers, and they were cruelly exploited in the name of profit and progress. Because Dickens became the biggest-selling novelist of his day, he became a powerful voice that people had to listen to. He had the great skill of creating memorable characters and dialogue while also addressing themes of social concern. In his private life he helped various charities, including schools for the children of the poor. As we shall see, he had his own personal reasons for doing this.

“为时代代言的小说家”

This painting of Charles Dickens was completed in 1839 by Daniel Maclise. Dickens was by then a married man with children and several published books to his name.

这幅查尔斯·狄更斯的画像是在1839年由丹尼尔·麦克利斯完成的。狄更斯那时已有妻儿，并且已经出版了几本书。



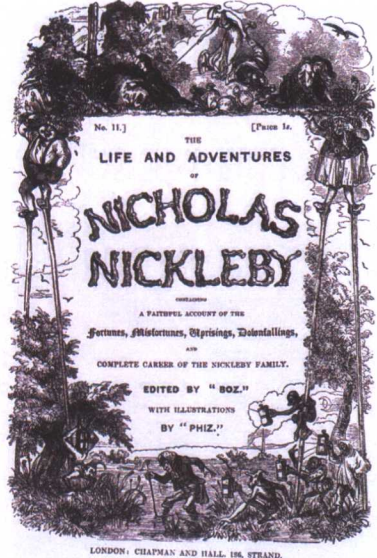
如今人们视查尔斯·狄更斯为最伟大、最受欢迎的小说家之一。自从他的第一部小说于1836年间问世以来，他吸引了全世界形形色色的读者。他那个时代几乎所有重要人物——政治家、作家、哲学家、经济学家以及社会改革家等——还有喜爱他作品的普通大众，都至少读过他的一部小说，就连维多利亚女王也是他的崇拜者。

时代精神

狄更斯用既深刻又风趣的写作手法把握住了他那个时代的精神。他的写作睿智而幽默，但他也会描写身边所见的种种日常生活悲剧。他把所有这些都放到了维多利亚时代的大背景之下。

在狄更斯生活的年代里，英国由一个农业国变成了世界第一个工业巨头。这一急剧的变化给社会各阶层带来了巨大的压力。农场工人搬到城里成了城市贫民。世袭财产的老农场主在新富的工厂主面前相形见绌。政治家们努力迎合新兴的中产阶级的种种要求，中产阶级越来越富有，而这基本上是以牺牲穷人利益为代价的。当时没有几条保护工人的法律，工人在利润和进步的名义下遭受无情的剥削。由于狄更斯已经是他那个时代最受欢迎的小说家，他的话语也就成了人们不得不倾听的权威之声。他拥有非凡的写作技巧，能够表现出社会中引人关注的主题，同时创造出令人难忘的角色和对话。私下里，他帮助过各种慈善机构，其中包括为贫困儿童而设的学校。我们将会看到，他这么做有他自己的理由。

profound *a.* 深刻的
entertaining *a.* 有趣的
exploit *v.* 剥削
address *v.* 满足（需求）



SOLAR PRESS LIMITED - MENSTON Part 11, 25th September 1972 Price 30p

The frontispiece of Dickens's second full novel, *Nicholas Nickleby*, published in monthly numbers in his magazine, *Bentley's Miscellany*, between 1838 and 1839.

图为狄更斯第二部长篇小说《尼古拉斯·尼克尔贝》的扉页。该书于1838年至1839年间在他自己的杂志《本特利氏杂志》上逐月连载。

Real life and fiction

Dickens used many of the thousands of experiences and encounters from his real life in his works of fiction, altering the names of people and places, and sometimes exaggerating situations to make them more funny or tragic. That is why the *Daily News* commented the day after his death in June 1870, that he was "The novelist of his age". The journalist who wrote these words was not only referring to the fact that Dickens was the greatest of the English 19th-century novelists, but also that he was the writer who most captured the spirit of the times in which he lived. His own life and the age in which he lived were tightly intertwined, more so than with most writers.

He constantly worked his own life into his novels, which is why a greater understanding of his life can make reading his novels much more rewarding. In all he wrote fifteen full novels, some of great length, as well as many journalistic and travel pieces, and short stories. He invented over 2,000 characters in his books, many of whom have become famous in their own right—Oliver Twist, Mr Bumble, Ebenezer Scrooge, Little Nell, Miss Havesham, Mr Micawber, Betsey Trotwood, to name just a few.

现实生活和小説

狄更斯把自己在现实生活中的许多经历和遭遇写进了小说，只是改换了人物和地点的名称，有时也会使用夸张的手法使剧情更有趣或更悲惨。这就是为什么《每日新闻》会在1870年6月他逝世后那一天这样评论：他是“为时代代言的小说家”。记者这样写不仅是指明狄更斯是19世纪英国最伟大的小说家这一事实，也是在说他是最能把握当时的时代精神的作家。他自己的生活和所处的那个时代紧密交织，在这一点上狄更斯要远胜于其他大多数作家。

他不断地将自己的生活写进小说里，正因如此，更好地了解他的生活对我们理解他的小说大有裨益。他总共写了15部长篇小说，其中有一些篇幅很长，还写过很多新闻报道、游记和短篇小说。他在书中创造了2,000多个人物，其中很多人物都成了名人，比如奥利弗·特威斯特、邦布尔先生、埃比尼泽·史克罗奇、小内尔、哈弗沙姆小姐、米考伯先生以及贝特西·特罗特伍德等。

Dickens's life and times

Most of Charles Dickens's adult life was lived through what we call today the Victorian period. Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837 and reigned until 1901. This period was one of unparalleled growth in terms of the population of Britain and the economy. The Industrial Revolution, which had started towards the end of the previous century, had really taken off by the time Victoria became queen. Britain had become the "workshop of the world" and its empire was to become the most extensive the world had known.

Dickens responded to all the change that was taking place across Victorian society by writing about it. He showed how different characters from different economic backgrounds could react and use, or fail to use, the new opportunities that unrestricted capitalism was presenting. He contrasted the new greed and ambition that were fostered in this climate with older values of love, loyalty and self-sacrifice. Often he used the contrasts to show how funny or absurd people can be—he is one of the greatest comic writers in the English language. At other times he highlighted the tragic consequences of the collision of different worlds and values—how so often the poor, the defenceless and the weak are crushed by the strong and greedy, by progress in a very general sense. Throughout his life, Dickens championed the underprivileged. He saw so much abuse and mistreatment of people in the name of profit and progress going on around him. He wrote skilfully to entertain his readers, but he also wrote to try and change society for the better.

狄更斯的生活和所处时代

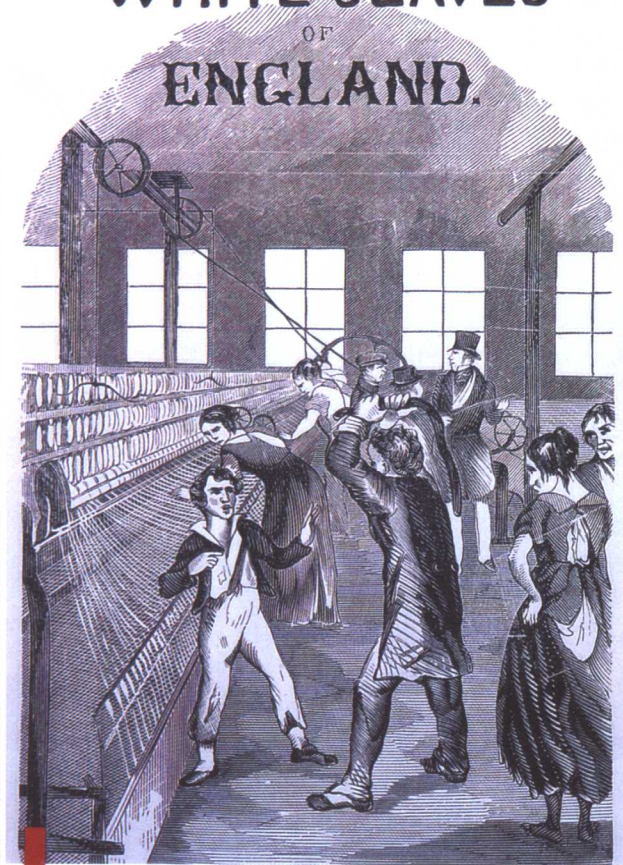
查尔斯·狄更斯的大部分成年时期是在我们今天所说的维多利亚时代度过的。维多利亚女王1837年登上王位，她的统治一直持续到1901年。从人口和经济两方面来说，这是英国历史上最辉煌的增长时期之一。始于18世纪末的工业革命实际上是在维多利亚成为女王之后才真正开始的。英国成了“世界工厂”，大英帝国也成为了有史以来世界上最大的帝国。

对于维多利亚时代社会发生的种种变化，狄更斯的做法是把它们写下来。他向我们展示了，面对自由的资本主义提供的新机会，不同经济背景的不同人士是如何反应并加以利用或是没能利用的。他把这种大气候滋养的新的贪婪和野心同旧有的爱、忠诚和自我牺牲观念进行比较，并经常用这种对比来表现人们的可笑和荒谬会达到何种程度——他是最伟大的英语喜剧作家之一。有时他也会强调不同世界观和价值观产生冲突的悲剧结果——穷人、无助者和弱者是怎样经常遭到贪婪的强者和空洞的“进步”的压迫的。狄更斯一生都支持贫困阶层的人们。他看到周围有太多的人在利益和进步的名义下遭受虐待。他以娴熟的写作技巧来取悦读者，但是他也试着通过写作来改造社会。

throne *n.* 王位

unparalleled *a.* 无与伦比的

THE
WHITE SLAVES
OF
ENGLAND.



An image of industrial England at its worst. Factory owners frequently used children as their workforce, exposing them to dangerous machinery, long hours of work and paying them little.

这幅图展现了工业革命时期英国最恶劣的情景。工厂主经常雇用童工，让他们操作危险的机器并进行长时间劳动，并且只付给他们很少的工资。

Sources of information

In his middle age, Charles Dickens told his friend John Forster many things about his childhood. Forster went on to write the first biography of the great novelist, publishing it four years after Dickens's death, in 1874. He called it, simply, *The Life of Charles Dickens*. From this source we have many firsthand accounts of what Dickens thought about things and what he remembered about his early life. We also have the memories that other people had about Dickens—his relations, his nanny, teachers from the schools he attended. Many of these accounts were written after Dickens had become famous and wealthy from his writing, and therefore have to be treated with some caution. We also have letters written by and about the great man. Together, these firsthand accounts provide us with very valuable material on Dickens's life and character.

资料来源

人到中年的查尔斯·狄更斯曾经跟朋友约翰·福斯特讲过很多自己童年的事情。福斯特于是着手为这位伟大的小说家撰写第一部传记，并于狄更斯去世四年后，也就是1874年出版了这部传记。他把这本书简单地命名为《查尔斯·狄更斯的生活》。从书中我们可以得到很多第一手资料，包括狄更斯对各种事情的看法和他对自己早期生活的回忆。我们还可以读到其他人对狄更斯的追忆，包括他的亲戚、保姆以及他母校的老师。这些记述中的很多部分是在狄更斯通过写作获得了名声和财富之后写的，因此我们应该予以慎重对待。我们还可以读到很多狄更斯的亲笔信和与他有关的信件。总之，这些第一手的记述给我们提供了有关狄更斯的生活和品格方面非常宝贵的资料。

The Mask of Childhood



Charles Dickens's mother, Elizabeth Barrow, is shown on the left. In 1810, her father stole money from his employer and fled abroad. John Dickens, on the right, the novelist's father, also had continuous money problems.

左图是查尔斯·狄更斯的母亲伊丽莎白·巴洛。1810年，她的父亲偷了老板的钱逃往国外。查尔斯·狄更斯的父亲约翰·狄更斯（右图）也不断出现经济问题。

童年时代的面具

Charles Dickens was born on 7 February 1812. His father was John Dickens, a clerk in the naval pay office in Portsmouth; his mother was Elizabeth Barrow. Both were from the lower middle classes. Although not poor, John Dickens's income was only enough for the family to live modestly. However, he was irresponsible and extravagant with the money he earned, and cast the family into debt and financial crisis time and again, until he eventually ended up in Marshalsea Debtors' Prison. These were all events that left deep scars on the developing personality of young Charles. He was humiliated by the downturn in his family's fortunes, and the theme of humiliation crops up often in his novels.

查尔斯·狄更斯出生于1812年2月7日。他的父亲约翰·狄更斯在朴次茅斯海军会计处工作，母亲是伊丽莎白·巴洛。他的父母都出身于中产阶级的下层。尽管算不上贫穷，约翰·狄更斯的薪水却仅能维持这个家庭过简朴的生活。然而，他毫无责任感，尽情挥霍挣来的钱，经常使他的家庭负债累累、陷入财政危机，最终他进了马歇尔西监狱。这些事情都给查尔斯正在成形的个性留下了深深的伤痕。他为自己的家道中落感到耻辱，耻辱的主题经常出现在他的小说中。

naval *a.* 海军的

scar *n.* 伤疤

humiliate *v.* 羞辱，使丢脸

Charles Dickens was the second child in what was to be a large family. His sister, Fanny, was just over a year older than Charles. Six other children were born to the Dickenses, two dying very young— little Alfred, aged only a few months, who suffered what was described as “water on the brain” and Harriet, aged three, who contracted smallpox. Their deaths were to remain in the memory of the novelist: childhood deaths occur frequently in his writing and are treated with a mixture of sentimentality and uncomprehending fear.

Dickens was an unusually sensitive and visually aware child, and he stored away the memories of these different times— the people he met, the places he lived and visited, sights and smells of various towns and cities, the language spoken by those around him and so on.

Charles Dickens's
first home— 13 Mile
End Terrace,
Landport, Portsmouth.
He was born here on 7
February 1812.

查尔斯·狄更斯的第一个家——
朴次茅斯兰德波特迈尔头街13
号。他于1812年2月7日在这里
出生。

