

朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书



第四级

David Copperfield

查尔斯·狄更斯原著 (英)D.K.斯旺 D.安德森 迈克尔·韦斯特改写 孙予译

大卫·考波菲

简写本



上海译文出版社



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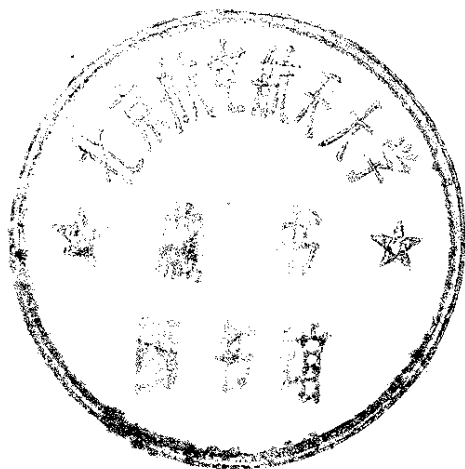
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给读者的话

学好英语的关键之一是多读。读什么？英语大师们的回答是：读名著。倘若名著又长又难，怎么办？那么就从简写本开始。《朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书》就是为满足这种需要编写的。这套丛书以循序渐进的方法、最浅显的英语词汇和最精美的全页彩图，给你讲世界上脍炙人口的经典故事。本套丛书有四大特色：

- 一、所选内容均为世界文学名著；
- 二、英语地道、纯正、流畅、清新，均出自英美名家手笔；
- 三、语言浅显易懂，可读性强。本丛书共分四级，所用英语单词分别为：第一级 500 个，第二级 900 个，第三级 1300 个，第四级 1800 个，非常适合不同程度的中学生、大学生及广大英语爱好者阅读；
- 四、英汉对照，帮助理解。汉语译文准确、优美。在符合汉语表达习惯的基础上，力图传达英语原文的意美和形美。

我们的宗旨就是向你打开通向英语名著世界的一扇扇小窗，让你轻轻松松地寓语言学习、文学欣赏和翻译练习于一体，一举而有三得。

Introduction

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens, born in 1812, was the son of a clerk in a government office. His father spent more money than he earned, and Charles Dickens was still a boy when his father, like Mr Micawber in this book, was sent to prison for debt. In those days, men who owed quite small amounts had to stay in prison until the debt was paid.

One result was that Charles's education was interrupted. Another result was that he had experience of the unhappy life of many poor people, including children. In years of hard work in various unpleasant jobs, he met large numbers of people, young and old, rich and poor, happy and unhappy. He had unusual energy and unusual powers of observation. He worked hard to improve his knowledge and at the same time he stored away memories of all the people he met – the men he worked for, the boys he worked with, London scenes and London characters.

He learnt to write shorthand, and he became a newspaper reporter, using his shorthand to record speeches and conversations in different parts of England and finally in Parliament.

He began to write sketches – short stories and descriptions – for weekly and monthly magazines. Readers enjoyed these sketches, especially those which showed Dickens's humour, his rich sense of fun. The *Pickwick Papers* appeared in parts in 1836–37, and the public loved them. Mr Pickwick is the very simple, innocent observer of

简 介

查尔斯·狄更斯

查尔斯·狄更斯生于 1812 年, 是政府某部门的一个职员的孩子。他父亲挣钱虽不多, 花钱却无度, 在查尔斯·狄更斯还是个孩子时, 他的父亲就跟这部小说里的米考伯先生一样, 因为欠债而进了监狱。在那些日子里, 一个人哪怕只欠很小一笔钱也得进监狱, 直到他把债务还清。

这件事造成的一个后果就是查尔斯不得不中断了自己的学业, 而另一个后果则是让他就此体验了许多穷人(包括那些穷孩子们)所过的不幸生活。他从事过各种艰辛的工作, 就在这样的年月里, 他碰到了许多人, 年轻人和老人, 富人和穷人, 幸福的人 and 不幸的人。他具有非同寻常的精力和非凡的观察力。他勤奋地工作, 不断增长自己的知识, 与此同时, 他将他遇见的各种人——他为之工作的人, 同他一起干活的孩子, 以及伦敦的风土人情, 全部储存在自己的记忆里。

他学会了速记, 接着他当上了一名新闻记者, 用他的速记记下了在英国各地乃至在英国议会上的各种演讲和谈话。

他开始为周刊和月刊写随笔——短篇小说和记叙文。读者十分喜爱这些短篇作品, 特别是那些表现狄更斯式的诙谐, 以及他丰富幽默感的作品。1836-1837 年间,《匹克威克外传》连载发表, 公众十分喜爱它们。匹克威克先生是一个非常纯朴率真的观察者, 一个对他那个时代人们的行为举止的

the behaviour of the people of his time. He is shocked by the wickedness he finds. Sam Weller, his servant, is a worldly-wise, clever fellow who gets Mr Pickwick out of trouble with all the humour of the London "Cockney".

The *Pickwick Papers* were immediately popular, and Dickens was soon in a position to make the writing of novels his one profession. The stories poured from his pen. They all appeared in weekly or monthly parts before being collected in books. Here are the most important of them in the order of writing, with the date of appearance as a book:

1838 *Oliver Twist*; 1839 *Nicholas Nickleby*;
1841 *The Old Curiosity Shop*; 1848 *Dombey and Son*;
1849 *David Copperfield*; 1850 *Hard Times*;
1859 *A Tale of Two Cities*; 1861 *Great Expectations*.

Dickens's characters were much better or much worse than they would be in real life. They were exaggerated in rather the same way as artists exaggerate in their drawings of political and other leaders in newspaper cartoons today. But the readers of Dickens's time accepted such exaggeration. They were perhaps readier to laugh or cry over the novelist's characters and situations than we are today.

The novels of Dickens are full of life, observation and energy, and his own energy seemed endless. His books were popular in the English-speaking countries on both sides of the Atlantic. In later years he travelled widely in Britain and America, reading from his books to eager audiences. His sudden death in 1870 shocked thousands of people who were waiting for his next book. Instead, they bought, and wept over, a picture called "The Empty Chair", showing the desk and chair that he would no longer use.

观察者。他发现的那种邪恶令他大为震惊。他的仆人塞姆·韦勒是一个老于世故的聪明家伙，他运用伦敦“东区佬”所特有的幽默，帮助匹克威克先生摆脱了许多的麻烦。

《匹克威克外传》立即广为流传，不久，狄更斯的境况使他能将写小说作为他的唯一职业。一篇篇的故事源源不断地从他的笔下写出，这些故事在编集成书出版前，全都分篇在周刊或月刊上发表。下面是其中最重要的作品，依写作先后和发表成书的日期而列：

1838 年《雾都孤儿》；1839 年《尼古拉斯·尼克尔贝》；

1841 年《老古玩店》；1848 年《董贝父子》；

1849 年《大卫·考波菲》；1850 年《艰难时世》；

1859 年《双城记》；1861 年《远大前程》

与真实生活中的人物相比，狄更斯笔下的人物要么更好，要么更坏。就像画家们爱在今天的报纸漫画上夸张地描绘政坛及其他头面人物一样，狄更斯笔下的人物也都被大大地夸张了。不过狄更斯时代的读者接受了这样的夸张。或许，与处于现时代的我们相比，当时的读者更易于为这位作家所描写的人物以及他们的处境去放声大笑或失声痛哭。

狄更斯的小说充满了生活、观察力和活力，而他自己的精力似乎也是永不衰竭。他的作品在大西洋两岸讲英语的国家中广为流行。晚年，他在英国和美国四处游览，为殷切的读者朗读他的小说。1870 年，他突然去世，这一消息让成千上万的人们无比震惊，他们正翘首期盼着他的新作问世。为此，他们都去购买一幅名为《空了的椅子》的图画，画面表现的是狄更斯永不再会使用的那张书桌和那把椅子，人们都为这幅画而悲恸失声。

David Copperfield

David Copperfield is partly autobiographical. That is to say, many of the people and situations Dickens describes come from his own life. But if he knew the people – teachers, lawyers, carriers, fishermen; schools, offices and other places – he used his imagination in describing them. Mr Micawber, for example, is based on Charles Dickens's own father, but Dickens exaggerates. In *David Copperfield*, Mr Micawber is an exaggerated picture of every optimist. The world is full of optimists who expect that everything will be all right *if* . . . But none of them is quite like Mr Micawber himself. We would say that he is a personification of optimism.

Dickens's characters often remain in our memories because of a catch-phrase. The one we connect with Mr Micawber is "Something will turn up." Another in this book is "Barkis is willing." Uriah Heep is "very humble", and so on. One does not go far in one's reading of modern English literature without meeting one of these catch-phrases from Dickens or finding a reference to one of the colourful Dickens characters.

《大卫·考波菲》

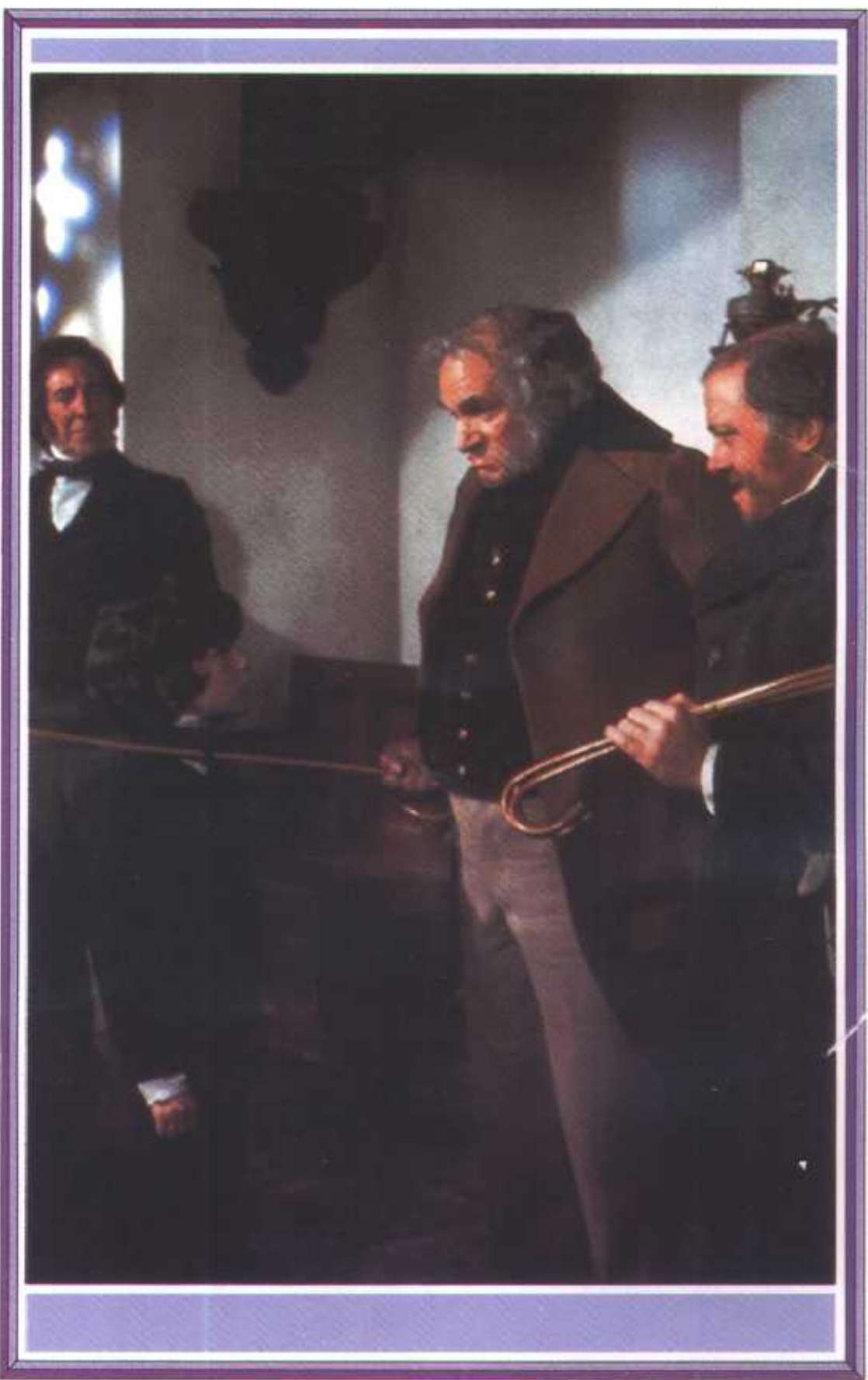
在一定程度上可以说,《大卫·考波菲》就是作者的自传。也就是说,狄更斯在小说中描写的许多人物和情景都源自他自身的生活。不过,即使他熟悉这些人——教师,律师,搬运夫,渔夫;学校,办公室以及其他地方——他还是运用他的想象力来描写他们。举个例说吧,米考伯先生就是以狄更斯的父亲为原型塑造的,不过狄更斯将他加以夸张。在《大卫·考波菲》中,米考伯先生就是对所有乐观主义者加以夸大的写照。世界上充满了乐观主义者,他们期望一切都会变好,只要……不过,他们中没有一个人跟米考伯先生本人一模一样。我们会说,他是乐观主义的一个象征。

时常会因为听到一句在大众中广为流行的话,我们的记忆中便会浮现出狄更斯笔下的人物。我们会将之与米考伯先生联系起来的一句话是“有朝一日,时来运转”。这本小说中的另一句话是“巴基斯非常乐意”。尤赖亚·希普是“非常卑微”,等等,等等。每个人在阅读当代英国文学作品时,不时会读到这样一句源自于狄更斯的令人耳熟能详的话,要不就一定会发现,能将书中的某个人物与狄更斯笔下那些有血有肉的人物中的某一个联系起来。



Miss Betsy Trotwood

贝特西·特罗特伍德小姐 (参见第一章)



Mr Creakle seemed to take a special pleasure in beating boys

打孩子似乎让克里克先生获得一种特别的乐趣
(参见第四章)



David at his mother's grave

大卫在他母亲的坟墓前 (参见第四章)



Mr Micawber

米考伯先生 (参见第五章)



Uriah Heep meets Mr Micawber

尤赖亚·希普与米考伯先生会面 (参见第八章)



After dinner at the home of Mr Wickfield

在韦克菲尔德先生家的晚餐后 （参见第十一章）



David comforts Peggotty

大卫安慰佩格蒂（参见第九章）