

## 1. Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death\*

不自由，毋宁死

Patrick Henry\*\*

帕特利克·亨利

*Is life so dear, or peace so sweet to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take: but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!*

难道生命就那么宝贵、和平就那么美好，竟值得不惜以镣铐加身、辱身为奴来换取吗？上帝啊，阻止他们这样做吧！其他人会选择什么样的道路我不知道；至于我，不自由，毋宁死！

### 原文

❶ ... Let us not, I beseech<sup>❶</sup> you, sir, deceive ourselves longer. Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated<sup>❷</sup>; we have supplicated<sup>❸</sup>; we have prostrated<sup>❹</sup> ourselves before the throne, and have implored<sup>❺</sup> its interposition<sup>❻</sup> to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been

\* 美国独立战争前夕，美国境内的十三个英属殖民地，抵制英货的浪潮空前高涨，抗英武装斗争风起云涌；同时，英国政府在积极调兵遣将。一场大战近在旦夕。这篇演说 是帕特利克·亨利于 1775 年 3 月 28 日在弗吉尼亚州发表的。

\*\* 帕特利克·亨利（1736—1799），北美律师及政治家，其演说以号召力强和感情真挚而著称。

❶ beseech v. 恳求    ❷ remonstrate v. 抗议    ❸ supplicate v. 恳求，哀求

❹ prostrate v. 使…屈服    ❺ implore v. 恳求，哀求    ❻ interposition n. 干预，插入

### 译文

❶ ……各位先生，我恳求你们不要再欺骗自己了。为了阻止这场正在来临的风暴，我们能做到的一切都已经做了。我们曾经请愿、抗议、恳求；我们也曾在英王宝座前俯首屈膝，哀求英王遏制住内阁和国会残酷的铁腕。但是，我们的请愿被蔑视，我们的抗议招来更多的镇压和羞辱，我们的恳求受

## 原文

disregarded; and we have been spurned<sup>⑦</sup>, with contempt, from the foot of the throne! In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free—if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained — we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us.

② They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance<sup>⑧</sup>, by lying supinely<sup>⑨</sup> on our backs,

⑦ spurn v. 轻蔑地拒绝，摒弃

⑧ of effective resistance 进行有效抵抗所需的资力

⑨ supinely ad. 仰卧地

## 译文

到漠视，我们在宝座前被轻蔑地一脚踢开。尽管我们一相情愿，想要得到和平与谅解，但这一切都已无望。如果我们希望得到自由，如果我们真要维护长期以来为之奋斗、使之不受侵犯的神圣权利，如果我们不至于卑鄙地想放弃我们进行已久、立誓不达目的决不休止的崇高斗争，我们就必须战斗！先生们，我重复一遍，我们必须战斗！我们只有诉诸武力，求助于万军之主上帝了！

② 他们说我们软弱，先生们，说我们对付不了如此强大的敌手。可我们要到什么时候才会强大些呢？下个星期，还是明年？是在我们被彻底解除武装后，家家户户都有一个英国兵看守着的时候吗？靠优柔寡断、消极坐待，我们就能聚集起力量

## 原文

and hugging the delusive phantom<sup>⑩</sup> of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath<sup>⑪</sup> placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible<sup>⑫</sup> by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over<sup>⑬</sup> the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant<sup>⑭</sup>, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat, but in submission and slavery! Our chains<sup>⑮</sup> are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston<sup>⑯</sup>! The war is inevitable — and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come!

## 译文

吗？凭仰面长卧、紧抱希望的幻影不放，等着敌人把我们的手脚捆绑起来，我们就能得到足够的实力来进行有效的抵抗吗？我们现在并不软弱，先生们，如果我们合理利用自然之神赐予的、我们能够得到的实力的话。我们的三百万人民，是在追求自由的神圣事业中武装起来的，又立足于我们所控制的这样一个国家，不管敌人派来什么样的军队，也是战胜不了我们的。何况，我们也不会孤军作战，先生们，有着正义之神主宰各民族的命运，他会召集朋友来帮助我们的。胜利不仅仅属于力量强大者，先生们，胜利属于警觉戒备者、行动积极者、勇敢无畏者。再说，我们还没有进行选举，先生们。即使说我们这些人想当选是别有用心的话，现在已为时过晚，已来不及退出竞争了。只要我们不屈服认输，不做奴隶，就决不会退却！用来对付我们的镣铐早已锻打好了！在波斯顿平原就可以听到那哗啦啦的响声！战争是不可避免的——那就让它来吧！我再说一遍，先生们，让它来吧！

⑩ phantom *n.* 幻影 ⑪ hath *v.* [古] = has ⑫ invincible *a.* 不可征服的

⑬ preside over 主持，此处意为主宰 ⑭ vigilant *a.* 警惕的，警醒的

⑮ our chains 此处指“对付我们的镣铐”。若无下文，也可作“我们的镣铐”理解

⑯ Boston *n.* 波士顿，美国东北部沿海城市，当时是英军在美国的大本营

## 原文

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate<sup>⑬</sup> the matter. Gentlemen may cry peace, peace — but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren<sup>⑭</sup> are in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take: but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!

## 译文

先生们，掩盖局势的严重性是无济于事的。绅士们会叫喊和平，和平——可和平根本就不存在。实际上。战争已经打响了！下一阵北风就会把铿锵的刀剑撞击声送到我们耳边来！我们的父老兄弟早已身临战场！为什么我们还按兵不动、袖手旁观呢？绅士们想得到的是些什么呢？他们又会得到些什么呢？难道生命就那么宝贵、和平就那么美好，竟值得不惜以镣铐加身、辱身为奴来换取吗？上帝啊，阻止他们这样做吧！其他人会选择什么样的道路我不知道；至十我，不自由，毋宁死！

⑬ extenuate *v* 掩饰，掩盖

⑭ brethren *n* [古] = brothers 父老兄弟们

## 2. Reply to the U.S. Government \*

## 给美国政府的答复

Chief Seattle \*\*

西雅图酋长

*And when the last Red Man shall have perished , and the memory of my tribe shall have become a myth among the White Men , these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe , and when your children ' s children think themselves alone in the field , the store , the shop , upon the highway , or in the silence of the pathless woods , they will not be alone ... At night when the streets of your cities and villages are silent and you think them deserted , they will throng with the returning hosts that once filled and still love this beautiful land . The White Man will never be alone .*

当最后一个红种人死去，当关于这个部落的记忆已经成为白人中间流传的神话时，我们部落那些看不见的亡灵，仍将密密地聚集在这片土地上。当你们的子孙以为他们独自一人在田野、仓库、商店、公路或寂静的无路可通的森林中时，他们其实并非独自一人。——夜深人静，当你以为城镇村落杳无一人时，街上却满是归来的故主。他们曾经生活在这里，他们仍然热爱这片美丽的土地。白人永远不会独占这个地方。

### 原文

### 译文

**1** Yonder<sup>①</sup> sky that has wept tears of compassion upon my people for centuries

**1** 数不尽的世代以来，渺渺苍天曾为我族洒下多少

\* 美国政府要将印第安土著居民驱逐到“保留地”定居。本文是西雅图酋长在美国政府压力下的答复。

\*\* 西雅图（1786—1866）是杜瓦密族（Dwamish）和苏夸米什族（Suquamish）等部落的酋长，他们居住在美国东海岸普吉特湾（Puget Sound）周边地区。

① yonder n. 更远的，那边的

## 原文

untold, and which to us appears changeless and eternal, may change. Today is fair. Tomorrow will be overcast with clouds. My words are like the stars that never change. Whatever Seattle says the great chief at Washington<sup>②</sup> can rely upon with as much certainty as he can upon the return of the sun or the seasons. The White Chief<sup>③</sup> says that Big chief at Washington sends us greetings of friendship and good will. That is kind of him for we know he has little need of our friendship in return. His people are many. They are like the grass that covers vast prairies. My people are few. They resemble the scattering trees of a storm-swept plain. The great, and-I presume-good, White Chief<sup>④</sup> sends us word that he wishes to buy our lands but is willing to allow us enough to live comfortably. This indeed appears just, even generous, for the Red Man no longer has rights that he need respect, and the offer may be wise also, as we are no longer in need of an extensive country ... I will not dwell on, nor mourn over, our untimely<sup>⑤</sup> decay, nor reproach

## 译文

同情之泪；这个在我们看来似是永恒不变的苍天，还是会变的。今天天色晴朗，明天又阴云密布。但我的话却像天空的星辰，永远不变。西雅图说的话，正如日出东方，四季更迭，华盛顿的大酋长可以确信无疑。白人酋长说，华盛顿的大酋长向我们致意，表示友好。我们感谢他的好意，因为我们知道他无所求于我们，不用我们以友情回报。他的人民众多，犹如覆盖着广阔草原的青草。我的人民稀少，像风摧雨袭后的平原上稀疏的树木。那位伟大的——我还假定他是善良的——白人酋长派遣人告诉我们，愿意买下我们的土地，但同时也愿意留下足够的土地让我们舒适地生活。这看来确实很公道，甚至很慷慨，因为红种人已经再也

② the great chief at Washington 指当时的美国第十四任总统（1853—1857）富兰克林·皮尔斯（Franklin Pierce, 1804—1869） ③ the White Chief 指时任州长史蒂芬斯

④ the White Chief 此处指美国总统 ⑤ untimely a. 不合时宜的

## 原文

our paleface brothers with hastening it, as we too may have been somewhat to blame.

■ Day and night cannot dwell together. The Red man has ever fled the approach of the White Man, as the morning mist flees before the morning sun. However, your proposition<sup>①</sup> seems fair and I think that my people will accept it and will retire to the reservation<sup>②</sup> you offer them. Then we will dwell apart in peace, for the words of the Great White Chief seem to be the words of nature speaking to my people out of dense darkness.

■ It matters little where we pass the

① proposition *n.* 主张, 建议

② reservation *n.* (印第安人)保留地

## 译文

没有必要得到他们尊重的权利了, 他的购买提议也可能是合宜的, 因为我们现在已经不再需要辽阔的地域了。……我不愿再详述我们民族过早的衰败, 也不再为此哀叹, 不再责备白人兄弟加速了我们的衰败, 因为我们或许多少也应该责备自己。

……

■ 白昼与黑夜不能相遇。红种人对白种人从来就是敬而远之的, 就象朝雾在旭日升起前就要消散一样。然而, 你们的建议看来是公道的, 我想我的人民将会接受建议, 退居到你们给他们的保留地去。这样我们就能分处两地、和平共存, 因为白人大酋长对我的人民所说的话, 有如从沉沉黑夜传来的大自然的声音。

■ 我们在何处度过余年

## 原文

remnant of our days. They will not be many. A few more moons; a few more winters-and not one of the descendants of the mighty hosts that once moved over this broad land or lived in happy homes, protected by the Great Spirit, will remain to mourn over the graves of a people once more powerful and hopeful than yours. But why should I mourn at the untimely fate of my people? Tribe follows tribe, and nation follows nation, like the waves of the sea. It is the order of nature, and regret is useless. Your time of decay may be distant, but it will surely come, for even the White Man whose God walked and talked with him as friend with friend, cannot be exempt<sup>❶</sup> from the common destiny. We may be brothers after all. We will see.

❶ We will ponder your proposition, and when we decide we will let you know. But should we accept it, I here

## 译文

已经无关重要。我们的来日不多了。这原来比你们更强大、更有希望的民族，曾经人口兴旺，受大神的庇护，在这片广阔的土地上幸福地安居乐业。再过几月，再过几冬，这个民族再也不会有一个后裔留下在它的墓前致哀了。但我又何必为我们民族的天折哀叹呢？一个部落没落，另一个部落就会振兴，一个民族衰亡，另一个民族就会崛起，像海潮一样，后浪逐前浪。这是自然的法则，悲叹惋惜是无用的。你们衰落的时间可能还很遥远，却必定到来。因为即使是能够同上帝像朋友一样亲密的白人，也不能免于同样的命运。我们终究会成为兄弟的，让时间来证明一切吧。

❶ 我们会考虑你们的建议的，等到我们做出决定，就会通知你们。但是如果我们接受这项建议，

❶ exempt v. 免除，豁免



## 原文

and now make this condition that we will not be denied the privilege without molestation<sup>⑨</sup> of visiting at any time the tombs of our ancestors, friends and children. Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished... The very dust upon which you now stand responds more lovingly to their footsteps than to yours, because it is rich with the blood of our ancestors and our bare feet are conscious of the sympathetic touch... Even the little children who lived here and rejoiced here for a brief season will love these somber<sup>⑩</sup> solitudes and at eventide<sup>⑪</sup> they greet shadowy returning spirits. And when the last Red Man shall have perished, and the memory of my tribe shall have become a myth among the White Men, these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe, and when your children's children think themselves alone in the field, the store, the shop, upon the highway, or in the silence of

## 译文

我现在在这里就要提出一个保留条件：我们要求有权随时不受干扰地扫谒我们祖先、朋友和子孙的墓地。这里的每一寸土地对于我的人民都是神圣的。每一片山坡，每一个河谷，每一块平原，每一从树林都由于往日的哀愁与欢乐而变得无比圣洁。……地上的尘土在我们的脚下比在你们的脚下更加舒适，因为那上面浸满我们祖先的鲜血，当我们赤脚踏上这片土地时，更觉其充满真情。……甚至只是在这里短暂居住、嬉戏过的幼童也会热爱这沉沉的荒原。在暮色降临之时，他们会迎接那些幽暗朦胧的灵魂归来。当最后一个红种人死去，当关于这个部落的记忆已经成为白人中间流传的神话时，我们部落那些看不见的亡灵，仍将密

⑨ molestation *n.* 干扰

⑩ somber *a.* 阴沉的，阴郁的

⑪ eventide *n.* 日暮，黄昏

## 原文

the pathless woods, they will not be alone. ...  
At night when the streets of your cities and  
villages are silent and you think them desert-  
ed, they will throng<sup>❶</sup> with the returning hosts  
that once filled and still love this beautiful  
land. The White Man will never be alone.

❶ Let him be just and deal kindly with  
my people, for the dead are not powerless.  
Dead, did I say? There is no death, only a  
change of worlds.

## 译文

密地聚集在这片土地上。当  
你们的子孙以为他们独自一  
人在田野、仓库、商店、公  
路或寂静的无路可通的森林  
中时，他们其实并非独自一  
人。……夜深人静，当你以  
为城镇村落杳无一人时，街  
上却满是归来的故主。他们  
曾经生活在这里，他们仍然  
热爱这片美丽的土地。白人  
永远不会独占这个地方。

❶ 愿他公平、正直、善  
意地对待我的人民，因为死  
者并没有失去力量。我说过  
死吗？不，人们不会死，他  
们只是去了另一个世界。

❶ throng v. 群集

### 3. Farewell Address at Springfield\*

### 在斯普林菲尔德城的 告别演说词

Abraham Lincoln\*\*

亚伯拉罕·林肯

*Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake us now.*  
让我们都来祈祷我们先辈的上帝不要此刻遗弃我们。

#### 原文

❶ My friends: No one who has never been placed in a like position can understand my feeling at this hour, nor the oppressive sadness I feel at this parting.

❷ For more than a quarter of a century I have lived among you, and received nothing but kindness at your hands. Here I have lived from my youth, until now I am an old man. Here the most sacred ties of earth<sup>①</sup> were assumed. Here all my children were born, here one of them lies buried. To you, dear friends, I owe all that I have, all that I am. All the strange, checkered<sup>②</sup> past seems now to crowd

#### 译文

❶ 朋友们，不曾和我有同样处境的人，谁都不能理解我此时此刻的心情，也不能体会我在这临别之际压在心头的忧伤。

❷ 我和你们在一起生活了比四分之一世纪还要长一些的岁月，从你们那里我领受的都是深情厚意。我从青年起一直生活在这里，现在已到老年了。我在这里结下了人世间最神圣的关系。这里是我所有儿女的出生地，这里还埋葬着我的一个孩子。

\* 本文为林肯第一次（1861年）当选总统赴首都华盛顿就职前对家乡亲友的告别演说。Springfield 是美国伊利诺斯州首府，林肯的故乡。

\*\* 亚伯拉罕·林肯（1809—1865），美国第十六届总统，1865年赢得美国内战的胜利，废除了奴隶制度。内战结束后遇刺身亡。

① the most sacred ties of the earth 指夫妻，以及父母子女之间的关系

② checkered a. 好运与厄运交替的；坎坷的

## 原文

upon my mind<sup>②</sup>.

3 Today I leave you, I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon<sup>①</sup> Washington. Unless the great God who assisted him shall be with me and aid me, I must fail, but if the same omniscient mind<sup>③</sup> and almighty arm<sup>④</sup> that directed and protected him shall guide and support me, I shall not fail, I shall succeed.

4 Let us all pray that the God of our fathers may not forsake<sup>⑤</sup> us now. To him I commend you all. Permit me to ask that, with equal security and faith, you will invoke<sup>⑥</sup> His wisdom and guidance for me. With these few words I must leave you, for how long I know not. Friends, one and all<sup>⑦</sup>, I must now bid you an affectionate farewell.

## 译文

我所有的一切以及我之所以能有今天，都应归功于你们，亲爱的朋友们。一切坎坷意外的往事仿佛此刻都涌上心头。

3 今天我就要离开你们了，去肩负起比当年落在华盛顿肩上更为艰巨的大任。除非保佑过他的伟大上帝也将与我同在保佑我，否则我必定会失败，但如果指引过他，保护过他的那位全知全能的上帝也将引导我，给我力量，我将不会失败，我将成功。

4 让我们都来祈祷我们先辈的上帝不要此刻遗弃我们。我把你们大家都托付给上帝，请允许我请求你们以同样的坚定和信念为我祈求上帝的智慧和引导。说完这些话，我就得和你们分手，要分手多久，我也不得而知。全体朋友们，每一位朋友，现在我满怀深情向你们告别了。

- ② crowd upon my mind 涌上我的心头 ① devolved upon 移交，(工作，职务给某人)  
③ omniscient mind 无所不知的上帝；全知 ④ almighty arm 万能的权力（指上帝）  
⑤ forsake *vt.* 放弃，摒弃 ⑥ invoke *v.* 调用，使用 ⑦ one and all 人人，全体

#### 4. Gettysburg Address\*

Abraham Lincoln

#### 葛底斯堡演说

亚伯拉罕·林肯

*this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom,  
-and that government of the people, by the people, for the people,  
shall not perish from the earth.*

这个国家在上帝的佑护之下，自由将会新生；使我们这个民有、民治、民享的政府永存于世。

#### 原文

■ Fourscore and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

■ We are met on a great battlefield as a final resting place for those who have their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we

#### 译文

■ 87年前，先民在这个大陆上创建了一个崭新的国家，信仰自由，致力于人人生而平等的主张。现在我们正进行伟大的国内战争，以检验这个国家，或任何有着相同信仰的或相同主张的国家，能否维持长久。

■ 我们就是在这场战争的一个大战场上集会，为了要将这片土地的一部分，献给那些为了国家生存而捐躯的战士们，作为最终的安息

\* 葛底斯堡位于美国宾夕法尼亚州南部，1863年7月1日至3日，北方军队在此重创南方军队。为纪念这次战役在此修建了国家公园，本文是1863年11月19日林肯总统在烈士公墓落成典礼上的演说词。

## 原文

cannot consecrate<sup>❶</sup>, we cannot hallow this ground.

❸ The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it above our poor power to add or to detract<sup>❷</sup>. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

❹ It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here thus for so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, -that from these honored dead we take increased devotion, -that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, -that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of free-

## 译文

之地。我们这样做是完全恰当的，应该的。然而，从深一层的意义上来说，我们根本没有能力奉献这片土地，没有能力使这片土地变得更为神圣。

❸ 在这里奋斗过的勇士，无论存殁，已经使这片土地变得更为圣洁，我们微薄的力量已不足以对它有所扬抑了。世人不会注意或长记我们今天在这里所说的一切，但是，这些勇士们的伟绩，人们将永志不忘。

❹ 我们后来者应该做的，是献身于英雄们曾在此为之奋斗、努力推进，但尚未完成的工作。我们应该做的是献身于他们遗留给我们的伟大任务。我们的先烈已将自己的全部精诚付与我们的事业，我们应从他们的榜样中汲取更多的精神力量，决心使他。

❶ consecrate v. 献给，使神圣

❷ detract v. 转移

## 原文

dom,-and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish<sup>●</sup> from the earth.

## 译文

们的鲜血不致白流。这个国家在上帝的佑护之下，自由将会新生；使我们这个民有、民治、民享的政府永存于世。

● perish *v.* 毁灭，死亡

## 5. Are Women Persons?\*

Susan Brownell Anthony\*\*

## 女人难道就不是人吗？

苏珊·宝莱·安东尼

*It was we, the people, not we, the white male citizens, nor yet we, the male citizens, but we the whole people who formed the union.*

这里写的是“我们，人民”，而不是“我们，白人男性公民”也不是“我们，男性公民”；而是我们，建立起联邦的所有人民。

### 原文

❶ Friends and fellow citizens, I stand before tonight under indictment<sup>❶</sup> for the alleged crime of having voted in the last presidential election without having the lawful right to vote. It shall be my work this evening to prove to you that in thus voting I not only committed no crime but instead simply exercised my citizen's rights guaranteed to me and all United States' citizens by the national constitution beyond the power of any state to deny.

❷ The preamble<sup>❷</sup> of the Federal Constitution says: We, the people of the United

### 译文

❶ 朋友们，市民们，今晚我站在你们面前，却面临着—项起诉，起诉者称，在上届总统选举中，我没有合法的选举权却进行了投票。今晚我要做的就是向大家证明，在上次的选举中，我不仅没有犯下任何罪行，而且只是行使了国家宪法赋予我和其他所有美国公民的、任何州都无权否认的公民权。

❷ 《联邦宪法》的序言中写道：我们，美国人民，

\* 本篇演讲发表于 1873 年。

\*\* 苏珊·宝莱·安东尼 (1820—1906)，美国反对黑人奴隶制度与争取女权的著名人士。当时，美国法律规定妇女无选举权，1872 年安东尼在总统选举中因投票而被捕，被判处罚款。

❶ indictment *n.* 控告

❷ preamble *n.* (法规、条约等的) 导言，绪论



## 原文

States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquillity<sup>①</sup>, provide for the common defense, promote general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity<sup>②</sup>, do ordain<sup>③</sup> and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.

**3** It was we, the people, not we, the white male citizens, nor yet we, the male citizens, but we the whole people who formed the union. And we formed it, not to give the blessings of liberty, but to secure them, not to half of ourselves and the half of our posterity, but to the whole people, women as well as men. And it is a downright<sup>④</sup> mockery<sup>⑤</sup> to talk to women of their enjoyment, of the blessings of liberty while they are denied of the use of the only means of securing them provided by this democratic republican government, the ballot<sup>⑥</sup>.

## 译文

为了建立一个更美好的联邦国家，确立公正、确保国家安定和保卫人身安全、提高大众福利，并维护自身的自由和繁荣，特此制定美利坚合众国的宪法。

**3** 这里写的是“我们，人民”，而不是“我们，白人男性公民”，也不是“我们，男性公民”，而是我们，建立起联邦的所有人民。我们建立起国家，不是去给予自由，而是去维护自由；不仅是为了给我们中的一半人及子孙后代中的一半人以自由，而是给全体人民，给男子，同时也给妇女以自由。投票权是这个民主共和国政府保障公民自由的唯一手段，如果妇女不得行使投票权，那么，向妇女奢谈幸福和自由的赐福简直是一种莫大的讽刺。

① tranquillity *n.* 安宁，平静 ② posterity *n.* 子孙，后裔

③ ordain *v.* 颁布（命令、法令等），规定 ④ downright *a.* 明显的，直截了当的

⑤ mockery *n.* 嘲笑，愚弄 ⑥ ballot *n.* 投票（权）