

文學眼光：李思達 (Alfred Lister, 1842–1890) 及其中國文學翻譯

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摘要

十九世紀中國文學作品英譯史的現有研究中，學界對幾位知名漢學家的探討頗為豐富，可是應當注意到，包括文學翻譯在內的十九世紀英國漢學的發展同樣離不開大量在華西人的積極參與，其中許多人的貢獻仍未得到足夠關注。本文的研究對象李思達 (Alfred Lister, 1842–1890) 就是這樣一位還不為人所知的譯者，他於 1865 年以香港翻譯官學生身份來到香港，在殖民地政府中歷任多職，曾擔任驛務司 (Postmaster General) 和庫務司 (Treasurer) 等重要職位。自從來港學習中文開始，李思達便關注中國知識，在不同漢學期刊發表多篇中國研究文章及翻譯作品，尤其傾心於中國文學的翻譯。本文通過發掘史料及文本考析，梳理李思達翻譯中國文學作品的選材、觀念及方法，結合他的殖民地經驗及當時中國研究語境，探討文學翻譯實踐如何發生及展開，其中又展現了怎樣的文學眼光，為我們理解十九世紀中國文學英譯史帶來新的發現。

Abstract

Much has been written about the prominent British sinologists in the history of English translations of Chinese literature in the nineteenth century. It should be noted that the development of British sinology, including literary translation, in the nineteenth century was also marked by the active participation of a large number of foreign residents in China. Their contributions have not yet received sufficient attention. This paper examines the life and work of Alfred Lister (1842–1890) as

a translator of Chinese literature who is still largely unnoticed. Since his arrival in Hong Kong in 1865, Lister had served in several offices in the colonial government, including Postmaster General and Treasurer. He had published actively in contemporary sinological journals, with a particular interest in translating Chinese literary works into English. With archival research and textual analysis, this paper examines his selection of source texts and his concepts and translation methods. It explores how the practice of literary translation had developed in the context of his colonial experience and the Chinese research environment in Hong Kong at the time. This paper brings new perspectives to our understanding of the history of English translations of Chinese literature in the nineteenth century.

關鍵詞

李思達 (Alfred Lister, 1842–1890)、中國文學、翻譯、英國漢學

(一) 引言

隨著十九世紀英國漢學的發展，中國文學的英譯也大量湧現，這些文學翻譯如何產生，學界至今仍較多關注幾位知名漢學家如理雅各 (James Legge, 1815–1897) 和翟理斯 (Herbert Giles, 1845–1935) 等 (Girardot 2002；關詩珮 2017；Barrett 2019)。然而，包括文學翻譯在內的十九世紀英語漢學的發展，並不能認為僅僅是這幾位漢學家的學術成就，也同樣依賴大量至今默默無聞的參與者。據皇家亞洲文會北中國支會 (North-China Branch of Royal Asiatic Society) 1888 年的會員名單，記錄在案的就有二百六十名會員 (王毅 2005, 40)，漢學期刊《中國評論》 (*The China Review: Or, Notes and Queries on the Far East*) 的投稿者名單顯示，在 1872 至 1901 年期刊發行期間，錄得不同投稿者名字超過四百人 (王國強 2010, 405–464)。¹ 有研究者提