chapter 7

# DANCING WITH THE CAPTAINS

# 与船长共舞

No sooner had *Erebus* dropped anchor in Ross Cove in April 1841 than the gregarious McCormick set about putting 146 days at sea behind him. The day after their arrival he dined at the Anglesea Barracks, renewing his old friendships with the officers of the 51st Infantry. Next morning he borrowed one of their horses and rode over to Risdon to see his friends the Gregsons. He was especially pleased to find his parrot not only still alive, but ‘greatly improved in his vocal powers’.

1841年4月，*厄瑞玻斯号*在罗斯湾抛下锚后不久，热衷社交的McCormick就将为期146天的海上航行抛诸脑后。在他们到达的第二天，他就去安吉尔西军营享用晚餐，并与第51步兵团的军官们叙旧。次日清晨，他又借了军营里的一匹马，骑至里司登去看望他的朋友Gregson一家。值得令人高兴的是，他发现他的鹦鹉不仅还活得好好的，而且“发音技巧有很大的进步”。

William Cunningham also took up with his contacts at the 51st, particularly his old friend, the Bugle Major. He was glad to be safely returned, though his diary also sounds a note of dejection: ‘I felt much disappointed in not having any letters from my friends.’

William Cunningham也开始和他在51团的老熟人们叙旧，特别是他的老朋友，Bugle少校。他很高兴自己能平安归来，不过他的日记却显得有些沮丧：“可惜我还是有些失望，因为没有收到朋友的来信。”

While the likes of McCormick and Cunningham socialised, Ross was busy. He knew that his Admiralty instructions required him to spend a second summer in the Antarctic, if necessary. His ships would need to be cleaned and repainted throughout, the rigging stripped and refitted and their hulls re-caulked. Then there were promotions to be made. Ross recommended Commander Crozier, whom he described in a letter to Beaufort as ‘a regular trump’, along with the First Lieutenant of *Erebus*, Edward Bird, whom he could hardly have commended more highly: ‘I have frequently been obliged for many hours, to relinquish the entire conduct of the expedition to his welltried ability and discretion.’

当McCormick和Cunningham等人沉迷于社交时，Ross也很忙。他知道，根据海军部的指示，如果有必要的话，他必须在南极度过第二个夏天。他的船都需要清洗和重新上漆，索具需要拆卸并整修，船体也需要重新密封。之后就是升职相关的事情。Ross推荐了Crozier指挥官,他在写给Beaufort的信中形容其为“一张可靠的王牌”，同时他还推荐了*厄瑞玻斯号*上的大副Edward Bird，他对其进行了高度的赞扬：“很多情况下，整个探险队的指挥都仰仗于他那久经考验的能力和判断力。”

Finally, Ross sat down to compose his account of the voyage for the Admiralty. It was late summer before it reached England and, despite all the achievements he could claim, it received a mixed reaction. Beaufort, the Hydrographer of the Navy, and Edward Sabine were greatly impressed, Beaufort calling it ‘one of the few modern voyages that will go down in history’. The top dogs at the Admiralty in Whitehall, however, were less than enthusiastic. Quite bizarrely, the report, dedicated to Lord Minto, the First Lord, was also censored by him. It was never published in the Admiralty *Gazette* because, as Sabine informed Ross in a letter, ‘of Lord Minto’s extraordinary crotchet [notion] that because there had been no bloodshed your despatch ought not to be in the Gazette’. Such astonishing disregard of Ross’s achievement was followed by less than open-handed generosity of recognition. Although there was agreement that Ross should be rewarded, there was argument as to what form his reward should take. Barrow and Lord Haddington – soon to be Minto’s successor as First Lord – wanted him knighted by patent, but that would cost Ross £400. If he waited until his return and accepted the knighthood by personal confer, it would only cost £100. Beaufort advised him to wait. Ross’s report was presented to the House of Commons on 7 September 1841. Sabine purchased thirty copies.

Penguin

Random

House

最后，Ross坐下来为海军部撰写他的航海报告。直到夏末，这封信才传到英国，尽管他声称自己取得了种种成就，但人们对它的反应却褒贬不一。其中海军水文地理学界Beaufort和Edward Sabine的相关言论最令人印象深刻，Beaufort称其为“极为罕见并且将被载入史册的现代航行之一”。然而，身处白厅的海军部高官们却兴趣泛泛。更令人感到奇怪的是，这份献给第一海军大臣Minto勋爵的报告也遭到了审查。该报告也从未在《*海军部公报*》上刊登，根据Sabine在一封信中跟Ross所说，“Minto勋爵一反常态的表示，由于没有出现人员伤亡，所以你的信件不应刊登在《*海军部公报*》上。”对Ross成就如此出乎意料地漠视，随之而来的便是不够慷慨的认可。虽然大家一致认为Ross应该得到奖赏，但对于奖赏的形式却存在争议。Barrow和Haddington勋爵——很快就会继承Minto勋爵的职位成为第一海军大臣——希望能授予他爵位，但这需要Ross花费400英镑。而如果他等到回国后以个人名义接受爵位的授予，则只需要100英镑。Beaufort建议他等一等。Ross的报告于1841年9月7日提交给下议院。Sabine购买30份。

The international reaction to the report was far less restrained. Ross’s exploits delighted von Humboldt and went down well in France. McCormick and Hooker would have been pleased to know that a leading French scientist thought the expedition’s natural- history collections compared favourably with those of d’Urville, which he called ‘very meagre and uninteresting’.

这篇报告在国际社会上引起了热切的反响。Ross的壮举在法国受到了广泛欢迎，并令von Humboldt感到十分兴奋。这位法国顶尖科学家认为与远征收获的自然藏品相比，d’Urville的藏品简直称得上是“非常贫乏和无趣”，这件事如果被McCormick和Hooker知道的话，他们肯定会很高兴的。

Of course the Antarctic explorers were always going to be heroes in Hobart, and the town that Ross referred to as ‘our southern home’ welcomed their return with unabashed enthusiasm. The Royal Victoria Theatre in Campbell Street, a dockside music hall that the cream of Hobart society would not be seen dead in, lost no time in marking their achievement by putting on ‘a grand nautical drama founded on the glorious discoveries of Captains Ross and Crozier’. Called, catchily, *The South Polar Expedition or The Discoveries of Captains Ross and Crozier*, it shared a double-bill with *Robber of the Rhine*. First night was barely a month after they arrived back, and the haste seemed to show. McCormick, the only senior member of the expedition to go and see it, watched it from ‘a front box, curtained round, to ourselves’. He felt it ‘rather indifferently got up, and not much better acted’, and the *Hobart Town Advertiser* felt that the impersonations of the two captains ‘cast a damp upon the energies of those who represented the distinguished personages’.

当然，在霍巴特镇南极探险者永远都是英雄，而这个被Ross称为“我们的南方家园”的小镇，大伙毫不掩饰自己的热情，欢迎他们的归来。英国皇家维多利亚剧院是一个位于坎贝尔街的码头音乐礼堂，霍巴特镇的社会精英们在这里永远不会感到无聊。剧院趁此时机上演了一出“以Ross船长和Crozier船长的壮举为原型的史诗级航海剧”，以此来纪念他们的成就。名称十分醒目，叫做《*Ross船长和Crozier船长的南极探险与发现*》，和它连场的还有一部剧叫《*莱茵河强盗*》。第一个表演之夜距离他们回来还不到一个月，其中的匆忙和仓促是显而易见的。McCormick是探险队中唯一一个去看它的资深成员，他在“前排的包厢里观看的，四周都用帘子遮了起来，将我们隔开”。他觉得这部剧“十分平庸，表演的不够好”，而*霍巴特镇的广告商*觉得这两个船长的扮演“打击到了那些声名显赫的人物们的精气神”。

Sir John Franklin’s daughter, Eleanor, was not allowed to go to the performance – ‘papa does not encourage the theatre’ – but had heard all about it. ‘It was said to have been ridiculous in the extreme . . . Sir John Franklin, for instance, had a head full of hair,’ she giggled to a friend.

John Franklin爵士的女儿Eleanor被禁止去看演出——“爸爸不支持我去看戏”——但后来她打听到了很多。“据说这部剧十分荒谬……比如，剧中John Franklin爵士有一头浓密的头发。”她对一位朋友咯咯地笑着说。

Meanwhile, a much bigger, grander and altogether smarter event was being planned. Something on a scale Hobart had never seen before: a celebratory ball to be held on board the ships, as a way of celebrating their achievement and thanking the people of Hobart for their hospitality. The date was set for 1 June, and the planning moved into gear with the formation of a committee, on which Surgeon McCormick served as honorary secretary for HMS *Erebus*. It was a role that gave him an opportunity to combine the scientific and the social. On Tuesday 18 May he wrote: ‘[I] attended the ball committee, and received a specimen of the *ornithorhynchus* [the duck-billed platypus, found only in eastern Australia] . . . unfortunately it died in the transit, and I preserved its skin.’

与此同时，一场更盛大、恢弘、高档的活动正在筹划中。这是霍巴特镇从未见过的盛况：在船上举行庆祝舞会，以庆祝他们的成就，并感谢霍巴特镇人民的热情款待。舞会的日期定在了6月1日，筹备计划由一个委员会的成立而开始，外科医生McCormick担任皇家海军*厄瑞玻斯号*的名誉秘书长。这个职位让他有机会将科学和社会结合在一起。5月18日，星期二，他写道：“（我）参加了舞会委员会，并收到了一只鸭嘴兽（有着鸭嘴型的嘴巴，只在澳大利亚东部发现过）的标本……不幸的是，它在运输途中死了，所以我保存了它的外皮。”

On Friday 21st, with not much more than a week to go, the two ships were warped in as close to the shore as possible and lashed together. On Sunday 23rd, the Ball committee met in Ross’s cabin and invitation cards were sent out, some to the dignitaries of the town and others to the officers of both ships, ‘to enable them to pay a compliment to friends from whom they may have individually received attention during their stay’.

在21日的星期五，距离舞会开始只有一周多的时间了，两艘船被绑在一起并尽可能地靠近海岸。23日的星期天，舞会委员会在Ross的船舱内开会并开始发出邀请函，邀请对象包括镇上的各种权贵还有两艘船上的各个军官们，“确保在逗留期间关照过他们的每一位都能收到这份致意”。

On the evening of 1 June the weather held, cool and fresh. The ‘*Erebus* and *Terror* Ball’ kicked off at eight o’clock. Carriages arrived at Government House and were directed to Ross Cove down a specially laid track, which wound through the trees to the waterside. Here Sir John had cleared the ground for a paddock, where guests could be dropped off. The two ships, bedecked with Chinese lanterns, stood a little way off the shore, joined to the bank by a bridge of boats – *Erebus* designated as the ballroom and *Terror* as the dining room and bar. Tarpaulins had been raised over the decks to provide cover. Passing between a pair of tall lamp-posts, guests approached, two abreast, through a canvas-covered arcade, decorated with flags and with branches of yellow wattle and other native plants ‘as to resemble the mouth of a grotto’, as McCormick described it in his journal, ‘so that after wending along a gloomy narrow passage for some sixty or seventy yards, a flood of light all at once burst upon them on stepping from the gangway upon the quarter deck’.

6月1日晚上，天气依然凉爽而清新。“*厄瑞玻斯号*与*恐怖号*的舞会”将在八点钟正式开始。乘坐马车来到政府大楼后，沿着一条特别铺设的小路，穿过树林，就可以直接来到罗斯湾。在这里，John爵士已经清除出一片围场，客人可以在这里下车。两艘挂满中国灯笼的船，位于离岸不远的地方，并且通过船桥连接到岸边——*厄瑞玻斯号*被指定为舞厅，而*恐怖号*则被指定为餐厅和酒吧。甲板上蒙上了一层防水布以提供遮蔽。客人们两两并排，经过一对高大的灯柱，又穿过由帆布遮盖的拱廊, 拱廊上装饰着旗帜、黄荆树枝和其他本地植物，“就像一个洞穴的入口”, McCormick在他的日记是如此描述的，“在沿着一条阴暗狭窄的通道走了大约六七十码，当他们从舷梯走到后甲板的时候，一阵炫目的光突然洒在他们身上”。

The two captains and their officers, in full dress uniform, welcomed every guest as they stepped aboard. Someone had had the bright idea of hanging the ships with all the mirrors that the expedition had brought along, as gifts for any benighted natives they might meet. There were 700 mirrors in all, which, according to a letter from a breathless seventeen-year-old guest, ‘reflected the lights beautifully’.

两位舰长和他们的副舰长，穿着整齐的军礼服，欢迎每一位登船的客人。有人想出了一个好主意，把探险队带来的所有镜子都挂在船上，并作为礼物送给他们遇到的任何一位被夜色围绕的本地人。据一位惊讶到屏息的17岁客人的信件描述称，合计达到700面的镜子“将光线反射得美轮美奂的”。

Captain Ross’s cabin and the gun-room – male bastions, if ever there were any – had been turned into the ladies’ dressing rooms for the evening, complete with mirrors, hair-pins and bottles of eau-decologne. The steps down to the lower deck, up which men normally raced on their way to the rigging, had been covered in red baize and the hatchway entrance hung with rosettes of red bunting.

Ross船长的舱房和炮室——本应该是男人的堡垒——此刻已经变成了晚上的女士化妆间，配备了镜子、发夹和一瓶瓶的香水。通往下层甲板的台阶——通常都是男人们为了拿索具跑来跑去的地方——此刻覆盖着红色粗呢，舱门入口处挂满了点缀着玫瑰花图案的红色旗子。

The ‘ballroom’ was lined with flags, and contained two bandstands. On one, a cloth-covered rostrum garlanded with flowers, the band of the 51st Regiment played beneath a portrait of the young Queen Victoria. The other bandstand, just aft of the mainmast, was occupied by the Hobart Town Quadrille Band.

“舞厅”两旁插满了旗帜，还有两个演奏台。其中一个台子上铺着装饰着鲜花的布，而51团的乐队则在年轻的维多利亚女王的画像下进行演奏。另一个演奏台则在主桅后面，被霍巴特镇的方格乐队（Quadrille Band）占据了。

At eleven o’clock supper was served on HMS *Terror*. It took a little time for the 300 guests to negotiate the gangway from one ship to the other, but once aboard, a fine display awaited them. The sides of the ship were lined with black and scarlet cloth, with candles placed in front of the mirrors. McCormick felt that ‘[Lieutenant] McMurdo . . . with his customary good taste, left nothing to be desired in its decoration and certainly threw us in the *Erebus* into the shade.’ The chandeliers particularly caught McCormick’s envious eye: ‘tastefully formed of bright steel bayonets, which had a far more ship-shape appearance than our hired commonplace glass ones’.

11点，*恐怖号*上的晚宴开始了。300名客人花了点时间通过舷梯从一艘船来到另一艘，而一旦上船，等待着他们便是各种精美的装饰。船的两侧铺着黑色和绯红色的地毯，镜子前摆放着蜡烛。McCormick觉得“McMurdo （中尉）……按照他一贯的好品味，在装饰上称得上做到了完美无瑕，这无疑使得我们的*厄瑞玻斯号*相形见绌。”那个枝形吊灯尤其引得McCormick一阵阵羡慕嫉妒的目光：“由明晃晃的钢制刺刀组成，看起来比我们租来的中规中矩的玻璃吊灯有品位多了。”

A supper of chicken, pies, pastries, cakes and jellies with fruit was already set on the tables, and wine, port, sherry and champagne were all available. Ross and Crozier sat on either side of Sir John Franklin. ‘Many toasts were drunk and speeches perpetrated, accompanied by loud cheering and emptying of wine glasses,’ noted McCormick. They danced on the deck of the *Erebus* until six in the morning.

晚餐的桌子已经摆上了各种鸡肉、馅饼、糕点、蛋糕和水果果冻，此外葡萄酒、波特酒、雪利酒和香槟酒也是一应俱全。Ross和Crozier坐在John Franklin爵士的两边。McCormick指出：“伴随着响亮的欢呼声和一瓶瓶酒被倒空，很多人都提了祝酒辞并喝得伶仃大醉。”他们在*厄瑞玻斯号*的甲板上跳舞，一直跳到早上六点。

The whole night was viewed as a great success. Cunningham wrote in his diary that ‘everything went off with the greatest éclat and hilarity’. This was in marked contrast to his much briefer entry the next day: ‘clearing away the Wreck; Heads bad’. The newspapers could hardly restrain themselves and were already calling it ‘the Glorious First of June’. The seventeen-year-old ‘lady of fashion’ gave her verdict in a letter to a friend: ‘the Ball at Government House . . . was considered the best that has ever taken place there. I had the honour of dancing with both Captain Ross and Captain Crozier.’ Two nights later she was at a quadrille party, revelling in the attentions of other members of the expedition, which sound to have been generous, if not winningly romantic: ‘Scarcely a day passes without some of the officers calling and bringing us specimens of granite, albatross’s eggs and different things from the South.’

舞会整个晚上都举办的非常成功。Cunningham在他的日记中写道：“一切都进行地十分顺利，并且特别热闹。”这和第二天他写的简短记录形成了鲜明的对比：“清理沉船；头坏”。报纸也没能克制住，激动的将其称赞为“光荣的六月一日”。一位17岁的“时尚女士”在给朋友的一封信中表露了她的看法：“在政府大楼前举办的舞会……被认为是在那里有史以来举行过的最好的一次活动。我有幸与Ross船长以及Crozier船长共舞。”两天后,她在参加一次方格舞会时，依旧沉浸于探险队其他成员对她的关注，这种关注如果不是出于一种对于浪漫的渴求的话，便是一种慷慨大方：“几乎每天都会有一些军官问候并带来花岗岩标本，信天翁蛋和其他各种南方的东西。”

One conspicuous absentee was Lady Franklin, who had been travelling in New Zealand for the past four months and was doubtless regretting the timing of her trip. She returned to Hobart on the sloop *Favourite* nearly three weeks after the ball, to be met on her arrival by Sir John and Captain Ross. In a letter to her sister Mary, she told of her great joy at finding the two captains still in Hobart, and of how much she would miss them when they left.

一位比较显眼的缺席者是Franklin夫人，她在过去的四个月里一直在新西兰旅行，毫无疑问，她正在后悔她的旅行安排。舞会结束近三周后，她乘坐*宠爱号*（*Favourite*）单桅帆船回到了霍巴特镇，John爵士和Ross船长特意去迎接她。在她写给姐姐Mary的信中，她说她非常欣喜于两位船长还在霍巴特镇，并表示如果他们离开的话她会十分的想念他们。

Leaving Crozier to coordinate all the activities at the Rossbank Observatory, Ross made a journey to the south of the island, collecting specimens, gathering information about the geology and botany of the Tasman Peninsula and surveying the natural harbours and grand banks off the coast. Even when not officially on duty, he was noting, calculating and evaluating all that he saw around him. His earnest commitment to understanding and improving the world led him to another of his unashamedly interventionist recommen-

dations. His later account of the voyage records his frustration that ‘so charming a country should remain a useless desolate wilderness, although capable of producing an abundance of food for a large population, whilst so many thousands in England have hardly sufficient to subsist on from day to day’.

在派遣Crozier前去协调罗斯班克天文台的所有事宜后，Ross前往了该岛的南部，收集标本以及塔斯曼半岛的地质学和植物学信息，并勘察沿海的天然海港和浅滩。即使不是正式值勤的时间，他也一直在记录、计算和评估周围他所见的一切。出于对理解和改善世界的真诚承诺，他又一次提出了他那厚颜无耻的干涉主义建议。他在后来的航行记录中描述了他的挫败感，“如此迷人的国家竟仍然是一片毫无用处的荒凉之地，明明能够生产出丰富的食物供应大量人口，英国现在可还有成千上万的人没有充足的食物来维持每天的生计。”

So far as nature was concerned, Ross was like McCormick and so many other of his contemporaries, inquisitive but unsentimental. At that time the world’s population was less than one billion and resources were abundant. Today, with the population heading towards eight billion, the destruction of our habitat is seen as a threat rather than an obligation. For Ross, the rich seas and forests of Tasmania were not there to be conserved, they were there to be exploited.

面对大自然而言，Ross就像McCormick以及和他同时代的其他许多人一样，好奇心很强但是不够感性。当时世界的人口还不到10亿，而资源却十分丰富。而今天，随着世界人口数量向80亿迈进，对人类栖息地的破坏已经成为了一种威胁，而不是一种职责。对Ross来说，塔斯马尼亚资源丰富的海洋和森林不是用来保护的，而是应该用来开发的。

To make the world a better place, one had to make it more productive. If there were fish, then they should be caught; if there were forests, they should be cut down. He couldn’t see the wood for the price of timber. Woodland should become farmland, and quiet coves with good harbours should become productive ports.

要让世界变得更美好，就必须让世界更有生产力。如果有鱼，就应该捕鱼；如果有森林，就应该进行砍伐。他看不上木材原料的价格。并认为林地应该变成农田，拥有优良海港的宁静海湾应该变成更高效的港口。

Of the original inhabitants of the island, neither Ross nor anybody else had much to say. Almost all had now been killed or removed to Flinders Island. Hooker has a particularly poignant entry in his journal. ‘Of the numbers that once inhabited this island, only three remain, all males, and they consist of an old, a middle aged man, and a child. They are very savage, but seldom seen.’

对于岛上的原住民，Ross和其他人也都没有什么可说的。现在几乎所有人都已经被杀害，或者转移到弗林德斯岛。Hooker在他的日记中有一段令人感到特别伤感的记录。“从前住在这个岛上的人，现在只剩下三个男的了，一个上了年纪的，一个中年人，和一个孩子。他们都很野蛮，但很少见到。”

Ross was a successful, strong-willed and strong-minded individual who saw the world as being at the service of man. And from there it was a small step to seeing the British as those best suited to be the world’s caretaker.

Ross是一个意志坚强、思想坚定的成功人士，他认为世界是为人类服务的。而通过他在此迈出的这一小步认为，英国是最适合充当世界守护者的国家。



*Erebus*

and

*Terror*

spent Christmas

1841

in the ice. John Davis aboard

*Terror*

depicts the scene.

*Erebus* and *Terror* spent Christmas 1841 in the ice. John Davis aboard *Terror* depicts the scene.

*1841年，厄瑞玻斯号和恐怖号在冰天雪地里度过了圣诞节。*John Davis*在恐怖号上描绘了这一场景。*