

Paratext Strategies in Translating Traditional Chinese Medicine — Taking the English Translation of "The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China" as an Example

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ABSTRACT

Emphasizing on Chinese culture going out, it is necessary to publicize the excellent Chinese culture and establish a good image of China. General Secretary Xi mentioned that "Chinese medicine is the treasure of ancient Chinese science and the key to open the treasury of Chinese civilization", and that the history of forensic examination in China has a long history, and "The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China" by Song Ci of the Song Dynasty is a summary of the long-accumulated knowledge of pathology, anatomy and pharmacology in ancient China, and a summary of the knowledge and experience of the official criminal inspection and the experience of the official criminal inspection before the Song Dynasty. It is also a summary of the knowledge and experience of the official criminal inspection, and also the earliest and most systematic judicial inspection book that organically combines China's ancient jurisprudence and medical science; there is a large amount of paratextual information in the English translation of The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China, which conveys in detail The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China's unique scientific culture and forensic medical knowledge of ancient China. By analyzing the translation examples of medical terminology and testing methods, we explore the subtext-assisted translation strategy, and at the same time, we also reveal that the subtext strategy is of practical significance to forensic testing and the dissemination of ancient Chinese scientific culture.

Keywords: *Forensic examination, Paratexts, The collection of wrongs, English translation of Chinese medicine.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The long history of Chinese cultural development has given birth to countless bright and precious historical inheritance, and Chinese medical texts, as an important part of them, contain the essence of Chinese medicine theory and long philosophical ideas, guarding the health of generations of Chinese people, and they also continue to provide innovative ideas for today's Chinese medicine, and they are the source of inheritance and innovation of Chinese medicine. As an ancient Chinese forensic medical text, "The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in

Thirteenth-century China" by Song Ci of the Song Dynasty is a summary of the long-accumulated knowledge of pathology, anatomy, pharmacology and other aspects of China's antiquity, which organically combines China's ancient jurisprudence and medicine, and provides a reference for today's forensic examinations.

2. THE CONCEPT OF SUBTEXT

The concept of paratext was first proposed by the French narratologist Gérard Genette in 1979 and has been continuously developed. Paratext can be a part of the book itself (e.g., title, cover,

abstract, preface, illustration) or an extension of the book's exterior (e.g., advertisements and interview comments). Gennett defines the former as peritext and the latter as epitext, and distinguishes between author- and publisher-created paratexts, arguing that publisher-created epitexts have a purely promotional function, and do not have the same value for literary research as peritexts [1], and that in the case of today's translations all paratextual material has a bearing on the degree of In today's translation, all subtext materials are related to the degree of dissemination of translated works. This paper mainly focuses on the types of internal paratexts, i.e., illustrations, captions, annotations, and so on. The first English translation of "The Washing away of Wrongs" is "The His Yuan Lu, or Instructions to Coroners" published by the British sinologist Herbert Allen Giles in 1924; the second widely circulated version is "The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China", an English translation by American professor Brain E.McKnight in 1981. Both English translations of the book are rich in paratexts. The use of paratext is of great help to translation work, on the one hand, it can help the translator to clarify his thoughts and supplement the ambiguous concepts in the original work; on the other hand, the reader can quickly understand the specialized terminology with the help of paratext; thus, it can be seen that paratext is a bridge of communication between the translator and the reader, and between the author and the reader.

3. ANALYZING THE SELECTION OF TRANSLATIONS FOR "THE WASHING AWAY OF WRONGS: FORENSIC MEDICINE IN THIRTEENTH-CENTURY CHINA"

The first English translation of "The His Yuan Lu, or Instructions to Coroners" was published in 1873 by the British sinologist, Herbert Allen Giles, who translated it because he saw the local officials carrying the book at the scene of the crime, and thus became interested in the book and Chinese civilization during the Southern Song Dynasty. He was interested in the book and the Chinese civilization in the Southern Song Dynasty, so he began to study and translate the book. Since the purpose of Herbert Allen Giles's translation was "to let the Western public understand the Chinese civilization, not to introduce the medical knowledge" [2], the translator's attitude was not from the precise scientific point of view, and the

rigor and professionalism of the content was lack of degree. In terms of text selection, Herbert Allen Giles's translation of the full text of the derivative text "Supplementary Notes to the Collected Evidence of Washing the Injustice Records" published by Tong Lian during the Daoguang period [3]. In contrast, another 1981 edition by American professor Brian E. McKnight is much different, The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China, published by the Center for the Study of Chinese Science and Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan published by the Center for Chinese Science and Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan, can be said to have supplemented and perfected some of the shortcomings of Herbert Allen Giles's edition, following the phonetic system of Herbert Allen Giles's notation, while at the same time annotating his own translation with passages not found in Herbert Allen Giles's edition; at the same time, as a professor of Chinese history, Brain E.McKnight also did a great deal of research in the literature before translating, which can be seen in the large number of references cited in his translation, and the fact that Brain E.McKnight is a professor of Chinese history. As can be seen from the numerous references listed in his translation, Brain E.McKnight's translation was made with a certain understanding of Chinese forensic science and judicial history; in addition, Brain E.McKnight's translation is the only version of The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China that has been translated in its original form so far. This paper selects Brain E.McKnight's English translation The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China to analyze the auxiliary role of subtexts in translation and to summarize the strategies and methods of using subtexts in translation.

4. ANALYSIS OF THE SUBTEXT OF THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF "THE WASH AWAY THE WRONGS"

Brain E.McKnight's translation is the only version of the original translation of " The Washing away of Wrongs: Forensic Medicine in Thirteenth-century China " so far. After studying Herbert Allen Giles's translation, Brain E.McKnight drew on some of Herbert Allen Giles's methods, and at the same time researched the history of justice at that time, and some of the points which were not covered by Herbert Allen Giles were also perfected by the corresponding subtexts, for example, in the

were difficult to describe in words, such as acupuncture points or the location of bones. The use of illustrations to assist translation in Chinese medicine translation is also reflected in current translations, such as "Fitness Qigong - Five Animal Play - Chinese-English Comparison" indicates that the relationship between the five birds and the five viscera and the five elements is illustrated, "Compared to overly complicated textual expressions, simple and clear diagrams are more culturally communicative to the general reader" [4]. Unfortunately, in the two English translations, the illustrations are not given the English translation of specific acupuncture points and body parts, according to these illustrations, readers are able to have a more intuitive understanding of the cadaveric parts of the text, the use of illustrations to demonstrate acupuncture points or body parts and other difficult to textual elaboration of the information this method to the translation of traditional Chinese medicine is an important revelation.

4.2 Title

The translation of the title is also one of the difficulties in the translation of Chinese medicine, "the author's title can be regarded as the key for the reader to enter the work or even the password to decipher the work" [5]. "Wash Grievances Collected Records" as a Chinese medical text that has been passed down for a long time, the title of the original text is very strong in generalization, and the language of the ancient text is already refined and rich in content, and when combined with the terminology of Chinese medicine, the meaning is even richer, so how to translate it to make it easy to understand? How to translate it in a way that is easy to understand and comprehensive is the difficulty and focus of title translation.

- Example (4): Original: 四时变动

Translation: Decay of corpses in the four seasons

The title of the original Volume II, Article 10, "四时变动" refers to the different changes of corpses in different seasons and how to examine the corpses according to these experiences, and Brain E.McKnight translates it as "Decay of corpses in the four seasons", which emphasizes the importance of the Chinese title. Brain E.McKnight translates it as "Decay of corpses in the four seasons", which highlights the information implied in the Chinese title, is concise and clear, and adds to the translation in response to the differences in the conventions

between the translated language and the original language.

- Example (5): 无凭检验

Translation: holding inquests on bodies too decomposed to serve as evidence

In the original Volume II, Article 15 also made the same changes in the same example (4), "no evidence test" translated as "holding inquests on bodies too decomposed to serve as evidence ", no test refers to the body has been decomposed to the bones are exposed, at that time, the body has been rotted flesh, bones are exposed, it is impossible to test, but due to the different levels of forensic science testing in various countries, Brain E.McKnight's title, put forward in this paper can not test the concept of the standard, clear and unambiguous.

- Example (6): Original: 洗罨

Translation: On Washing the Corpse and the Use of Mats

Different from the example mentioned above is the translation of the title of Volume II, Article 11. 洗罨 is an ancient method of post-mortem examination, generally through wine or vinegar and hot compresses to make the corpse soften or show wounds, if there is subcutaneous bleeding, the use of vinegar, wine, can make the epidermis of the corpse swell, increase the transmittance of the body's wounds, the body's wounds will deepen the color, the examination of the body's pre-mortem injuries have a reference; and the hot compresses can alleviate the rigidity of the corpse, and promote chemical changes. In the translation of this title, Brain E.McKnight separate translation "洗" for On Washing the Corpse, in the translation of the provincial translation, did not translate the washing liquid such as wine, vinegar, this provincial translation to avoid the title of the cumbersome, and at the same time guide the reader to think about the book to find the answer to deepen the readers' deep understanding of this section. These titles are translated because Brain E.McKnight himself knows the content of each chapter, and make a summary, in order to express the clarity of the spirit.

4.3 Annotations

Annotations are the most common subtexts in translations. Through annotations, translators help target language readers understand the original work correctly and deeply. Similarly, annotation is also an important dimension for readers to

understand the translator's view of translation [6]. There are a total of 14 annotations in Volume III, some of which are where the translator puts forward his own thoughts and doubts about the original, which is also one of the characteristics of Ma Boliang's translation.

- Example (7): 人有三百六十五节，按一年三百六十五日。

Translation: Man has three hundred sixty-five bones, corresponding to the three hundred sixty-five days in a year.

Footnote: This is the clearest example in our text of the influence of a belief in numerological correspondence on traditional Chinese perceptions of their world. By the Sung, numerology no longer played a dominant role in the thinking of most members of the elite, but as this passage suggests, it continued to By the Sung, numerology no longer played a dominant role in the thinking of most members of the elite, but as this passage suggests, it continued to appear in literature.

For example, in Volume 37, "Examining the Bones", the ancient Chinese medical profession believed in the "unity of heaven and man" and the "correspondence between heaven and man", and considered that man's close relationship with nature, and the number of the human body and that of the circumference of the heavens should also match, which was the reason why the number of degrees should match the number of the circumference of the sky. The number of degrees of the human body and the three hundred and sixty-five degrees of the circumference of the heavens should also be consistent, which is an incorrect statement along the lines of the "Nei Jing Note". Brain E.McKnight wrote his own thoughts in a footnote after the original translation in the translation, which is his view and explanation of the ancient Chinese culture, and even though this statement is incorrect, the reason for the error, i.e., the influence of the Chinese numerology of fortune telling on the world view of the Chinese culture, needs to be mentioned to the readers in order to avoid the readers' misinterpretation of the original text.

- Example (8): Original: 四缝骸骨内一处有折断，系致命所在…

Translation: When among the bones on one of the four sides of the skeleton there is a break, whether it is a mortal injury or not, have the coroner's assistant ...

Footnote: Grammatically speaking, the expression ssu-feng hsi ku 四缝骸骨 should

be the name of a bone, but that would seem to make no sense in these passages

Another example is Volume 3, Number 8 ,the original text mentions "四缝骸骨", for "四缝骸骨" expresses its own doubts, in the original text does not take the previous phonetic translation method, targeted to adjust the translation to "one of the four sides of the skeleton", "four sides of the skeleton", "one of the four sides of the skeleton", and then mentioned the reason in the notes, although "four seams of the skeleton" grammatically should be the name of the bone, but it does not make sense here, to give the reader a reference. The annotation fully embodies the translator's subjectivity, showing that the translator interprets the original text more freely through the footnotes in the translation process, and actively participates in the translation activities, moving from passivity to manifestation [7].

- Example (9): the original: 件作、行人受囓，多以芮一作茜草投醋内，涂伤损处，痕皆不见。

Translation: The coroner's assistant or the attendants, if they are asked to do so [by the involved parties], will often throw yu-ts'a [Caryopteris leaf pulp] (One edition makes this ch'ien) and grasses into the vinegar and smear this on the injury so that the marks will be obscured.

Footnote: The character ch'ien given here is equivalent to the character yu in the expression yu-ts'ao; the leaf pulp of Caryopteris incana was applied to The character ch'ien given here is equivalent to the character yu in the expression yu-ts'ao; the leaf pulp of Caryopteris incana was applied to purulent swellings to make them go down, according to the PTKM16.138

In addition in Volume II, Section 8 for the original text of the caryopteris also proposed the corresponding explanation, from the book's explanation, Rui Cao should be cynomolgus, cynomolgus is a kind of Chinese herbal medicine, it contains cynomolgus, it is a natural big red dye, cynomolgus of the root of the medicine into the cool blood to stop the bleeding, it can eliminate the stasis of the swelling, when the inspectors were bribed and entrusted, often beforehand, cynomolgus into the vinegar, and use it to apply in the place of the wounds, wounds can not be seen. This is an important special medicinal property that readers are often unfamiliar with. Brain E.McKnight's translation takes note of this cultural difference and conveys the medicinal properties of Xi Cao to readers by way of a footnote. This kind of treatment has great reference significance for our Chinese

medicine translation, Chinese medicine is an indispensable role in Chinese medicine culture, how to deal with the translation of Chinese medicine terminology is also a major difficulty in Chinese medicine translation, if only phonetic translation for pinyin, in the cultural transmission of the understanding of the differences can not be avoided, however, in the annotation mentioned in the drug related to the properties of the drug, can make up for the gaps in understanding due to the cultural differences.

5. STRATEGIES

Through the analysis of the above three types of paratexts, some strategies for translating Chinese medicine can be summarized. First of all, the translation of illustrations of human acupoints and meridians is essential. The provision of illustrative materials plays a great role in the output of information for medical texts, especially Chinese medical texts. Readers are able to make up for the lack of comprehension of the language and text through the pictures provided by the texts before reading the medical texts, so it is very important to accurately and completely translate the acupoints and meridians in the translation of the illustrated part of the content. Secondly, the translation of the title can adopt the translation strategy of augmentation and omission, in which the implied important information is translated through augmentation to provide readers with complete information; while some complicated information content is refined through omission, striving for simplicity and clarity in the translation of the title. Finally, it is the translation of annotations. Ancient Chinese medical texts have a lot of ancient Chinese cultural characteristics, which have its unique charm after thousands of years of precipitation, but due to cultural differences, foreign readers usually do not understand the deep meaning of them well, for example, the translation of the above mentioned Chinese medicines is translated to foreign readers by way of extra-textual annotations, which also makes up for the hidden information in the text, and enhances the readers' understanding of the text.

6. CONCLUSION

The "Collection of Wash and Injustice" is a bright pearl in the history of Chinese medicine, and the study of the translation of the "Collection of Wash and Injustice" is also a study of the translation and dissemination of Chinese medicine. There is a large amount of paratextual information

in the translations of Herbert Allen Giles and Brain E.McKnight, which make up for the lack of content due to the different cultures of the original text in the process of dissemination, and the study of the strategy of paratextual use in the two translations makes a useful attempt to the translation of Chinese medicine.

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