# 『油拉八國』に関する資料調査

毛 礼 婷

# Analysis of the prototype material of You la ba guo

### MAO Liting

#### Abstract

The material of studying Shanghai dialect can not only be found in China but also from other countries, which was written by missionary who had been Shanghai and learned Shanghai dialect. Such as Walter Henry Medhurst (1796–1857), John Macgowan (1845–1922), Joseph Edkins (1823–1905), they all have wrote some books about the study of Shanghai dialect. By my Professor Uchida, I learned a geography book titled *You la ba guo* written in Shanghai dialect. But it is uncertain about the background information of this book. I found a Geography textbook titled *System of Geography use of Schools* written by Sidney Edwards Morse (1844), and this maybe the prototype of *You la ba guo*.

This research note is to show how I found *System of Geography use of Schools*, and offer the information of this book and its author.

Keywords:油拉八國、上海方言、地理教材

#### 1. Introduction

You la ba guo is a manuscript, written in Shanghai dialect<sup>1)</sup> about the geography of Europe and Asia. It introduces geography from Russia to Spain, from Chinese Tartary to Polynesia-islands scattered over the central and southern Pacific Ocean, including every country's history, religion, scenery and so on. However, we just know only a little about the background of this manuscript.

Qian Nairong points out that the dialect used in You la ba guo was the standard style of Shanghainese in the nineteenth century, that used words such as '第块', '垃拉', '拨伊', '事体' and so on. There are also some revisions in this manuscript, although the handwriting is beautiful.<sup>2)</sup> On the first page of You la ba guo, 'July 10 1849' is faintly written in the lower right margin, from which we can infer the date of this manuscript. The identification of '慕姑娘' Mu Guniang, the author of the manuscript, is uncertain. Moreover, Qian Nairong implies that the author may be the British Missionary William Muirhead (1822–1900), whose Chinese name was 慕維廉.

William Muirhead was sent to Shanghai by the London Missionary Society, arrived at Shanghae on August 26th, 1847, and has continued his labours there ever since.<sup>3)</sup>

According to Alexander Wylie (1867), William Muirhead wrote 39 books in Chinese and three books in English.

According to the list, there are only two books related to geography and history: *Di li quan zhi* 地理全志 and *Da ying guo zhi* 大英国志.

"地理全志" Universal geography. 2 volts. 365 leaves. Shanghae, 1853–1854. The first volume of this work, in 5 books, is on Political Geography, in a short English preface to which, the author acknowledge his obligation to the work of Marques of Macao, 地

<sup>1)</sup> The Shanghai dialect was also known as Shanghainese or Hu Chinese, which was spoken in the central districts of Shanghai.

<sup>2)</sup> Qian Nairong (2014), Xi fang chuan jiao shi Shanghai fang yan zhu zuo yan jiu (西方传教士上海方言 著作研究)

<sup>3)</sup> Alexander Wylie (1867), Memorials of Protestant missionaries to the Chinese: Giving a list of their publications, and obituary notices of deceased, p.168

| 1. 行客經理傳        | 2. 耶穌要志   |
|-----------------|---|
| 3. 格物窮理問答       | 4. 救世良言   |
| 5. 地理全志         | 6. 救世箴言   |
| 7. 教會問答         | 8. 耶穌降世傳  |
| 9. 來就耶穌         | 10. 耶穌問答  |
| 11. 天教證畧        | 12. 聖書大道  |
| 13. 天佛論衡        | 14. 教會聖歌  |
| 15. 救靈先路        | 16. 聖教入門  |
| 17. 天理十三條       | 18. 救世聖歌  |
| 19. 求雨勸世文       | 20. 便用禱告文式  |
| 21. 絕棄偶像勸世文     | 22. 耶穌福音  |
| 23. 大英國志        | 24. 論上帝   |
| 25. 天教超儒論       | 26. 論天堂   |
| 27. 天人異同        | 28. 真教權衡  |
| 29. Ten Sermons | 30. 耶穌門徒問答  |
| 31. 總論耶穌之道      | 32. 聖教或問  |
| 33. 讚主詩歌        | 34. 從耶穌聖教公會   |
| 35. 至聖指南        | 36. 聖教問答  |
| 37. 虔敬真理        | 38. The Parting Charge. A Sermon preached in commemoration of the death of the Rev. W. H. |
| 39. 聖歌          | 40. Christian Missions  |
| 41. 天道入門        | 42. Sin discovered  |

Figure 1

理備覽; also the 瀛環志畧, by Seu Keyu, the governor of Fuh-keen; and Milner's "Universal Geography" in English. The second volume, on Physical, Mathematical and Historical Geography, in 10 books, was drawn up with the assistance of Mrs. Somerville's "Physical Geography," Milner's "Physical Atlas," and Reid's "Outlines of Geology and Astronomy," as stated in the English preface, which gives a synopsis of the volume. It is largely illustrated with plates, in a very good style of art.<sup>4)</sup>

The quote above mentions "地理全志". This is similar to that in *You la ba guo*, but the numbers of population and proportion for each country are different in these two books are not the same. Moreover, *You la ba guo* is written in Shanghai dialect but *Di li quan zhi* is written in mandarin, so the translation of each country in this two books is similar but not the same.

<sup>4)</sup> Alexander Wylie (1867), Memorials of Protestant missionaries to the Chinese: Giving a list of their publications, and obituary notices of deceased, p.168.

Such as: Europe — 油拉八 and 歐羅巴;

Asia — 愛息阿 and 亞西亞.

They were all transliterated from English words but into different Chinese words. Therefore, *You la ba guo* maybe not relevant to "地理全志."

# 2. The Numbers in You la ba guo

I collected the numbers described in *You la ba guo* and translated them from Shanghai dialect to Arabic numbers, which are the square miles and populations for each country, such as:

| Countries         | Square miles | Population  |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Europe            | 3,667,146    | 238,473,957 |
| Russia            | 2,041,000    | 54,000,000  |
| Sweden and Norway | 284,000      | 4,300,000   |
| Denmark           | 21,615       | 2,150,000   |
| Portugal          | 34,500       | 3,400,000   |
| Spain             | 176,480      | 12,000,000  |

Figure 2

These numbers are very specific, and they must have been surveyed by someone. I found a book titled *System of Geography use of Schools*. The author is Sidney Edwards Morse. The book was published by Harper& Brothers in New York in 1844. It was a textbook on geography used in schools and colleges in America. What is important about this book is that the numbers in this book are the same as in *You la ba guo*. Therefore, this book may be the prototype of *You la ba guo*.

## 3. Sidney Edwards Morse

Sidney Edwards Morse was an American journalist, inventor, and author, born in Charlestown Massachusetts, February 7, 1794; died in New York City, December 24, 1871. He was the son of Rev. Jedidiah Morse (1761–1862), "the father of American Geography." His elder brother was Samuel F.B. Morse (1791–1872), the inventor of telegraphy.<sup>5)</sup>

<sup>5)</sup> Appletons Annual Cyclopedia and Register of Important Events of the Year 1871, Vol. 11

He entered the freshman class in Yale College in 1805 at the young age of eleven years old, and graduated at fourteen. His father and a number of clergymen and laymen in and near Boston, hoped to establish a religious newspaper, so they invited S. Edwards Morse. He first helped to edit the *Boston Recorder*, now forms a part of the *Congregationalist*. After leaving the *Boston Recorder*, he went to Andover to study theology, and also studied law at the Litchfield (Connecticut) Law School until 1820. He then moved to New York, established another religious paper, the New York Observer, with his younger brother, Richard Cary Morse. (The first issue appeared on May 17, 1823) It became the oldest weekly newspaper in New York City, and the oldest religious newspaper in the state. S. Edwards Morse was the senior editor and proprietor of this paper until 1858.

S. Edwards Morse's father, Jedidiah Morse, was a famous geographer in America. He influenced the educational system of America with his geography textbooks, such as *American Geography* (Elizabethtown, 1789) and *Geography Made Easy* (New haven, 1784).<sup>8)</sup>
S. Edwards Morse was also the author of school geography. He wrote *A new system of Modern Geography* (Boston, 1823), *System of Geography use of Schools, North American Atlas*, etc.<sup>9)</sup> In addition, He also had gift for invention. In 1817, he and his elder brother Samuel F.B. Morse patented the flexible piston-pump; in 1839 he produced the new art of cerography<sup>10)</sup> for printing maps on the common printing-press; on July 17, 1866, he and his son were granted one for a "bathometer." The bathometer was an invention for rapid exploration of the depths of the sea. The "bathometer" was exhibited at the Paris Exposition of 1867.<sup>12)</sup> In his later life, he devoted himself in this study with his son, Mr. G. Livingston Morse. On December 15, 1871, he was engaged until a very late hour writing upon the subject, and on rising to go up to his bedchamber was stricken with paralysis.

<sup>6)</sup> The *Congregationalist*, established in 1849, Magazine of the Congregational Way, has been published continuously since 1958 by the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches.

<sup>7)</sup> Appletons Annual Cyclopedia and Register of Important Events of the Year 1871, Vol. 11

<sup>8) &</sup>quot;Morse, Jedidiah." Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography/Morse, Jedidiah. New York

<sup>9) &</sup>quot;Morse, Jedidiah." Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography/Morse, Jedidiah. New York

<sup>10)</sup> Cerography (wax engraving): a printing making technique related to engraving, using a layer of wax over a metal substrate. After the image is engraved into the wax,a positive plate is produced through stereotyping or electrotyping. This plate can be used with conventional letterpress equipment. This printing process used to make thousands of maps, technical drawings, business forms and some artworks from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century.

<sup>11) &</sup>quot;Morse, Jedidiah." Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography/Morse, Jedidiah. New York

<sup>12)</sup> Appletons Annual Cyclopedia and Register of Important Events of the Year 1871, Vol. 11

and died eight days later. 13)

## 4. System of Geography use of Schools

System of Geography use of Schools is a textbook on geography that was used in schools and colleges in America. It contained a lot of maps. Firstly, it explained the definition of the knowledge of geography, and how to read these different maps. Every paragraph was numbered as one point of knowledge. Besides the colorful maps, there are also a lot of monochrome pictures in the textbook that showed the culture, local people, local animals, and famous architecture. After each sections, there is a small test, with some easy questions about the information mentioned in it.

According to the preface, the first geography text, was prepared by the author's father, Jedidiah Morse. The name of the author was first associated with that of his father in the twenty-second edition of the school geography published in Boston in 1820. The prominent characteristics of the book are:

- 1. The *Arrangement* is such that the Map, Questions on the Map, the Description of each country, are on the same page, or on pages directly opposite, enabling the pupil to refer readily from one to the other, without the inconvenience of two books, or even the necessity of turning the leaf.
- 2. The *Maps* are more numerous, and generally, on a larger scale than in any other School Geography.
- 3. The *Exercises* on the Map are so framed as to present a connected view of the great features of each country.
- 4. The *Description* are in a series of short paragraphs, written in concise style, and confined to the most interesting and characteristic matter.
- 5. The *correct Pronunciation* of difficult names is indicated by dividing into syllables, accenting, &c.
- 6. The *General and Comparative views* at the end of the volume are on the plan first introduced by the author in 1820, and since adopted in many other School Geographies. They are regarded as well fitted to exercise and strengthen the judgment.
- 7. The new art of Cerography is applied for the first time to the illustration of a work

of this kind, and enables the publishers to sell it at a very low price.<sup>14)</sup>

The *System of Geography use of Schools* has maps, questions and exercises, descriptions, and questions. Every paragraph was numbered by Arabic numbers, which is the same to *You la ba guo*. Compare to *You la ba guo*, *System of Geography* introduced geography including Europe and Asia and even the entire world completely and richly by using many pictures and maps.



Picture 1<sup>15)</sup>

- 14) System of Geography use of Schools (1844), preface
- 15) S. Edwards Morse. System of Geography use of Schools (1844)



Picture  $2^{16)}$ 

#### 5. Conclusion

In this paper, I introduced a manuscript, written in Shanghai dialect about the geography of Europe and Asia, named *You la ba guo*. But we only can get a little vague information on the background of this manuscript, so I tried to find some background messages by using the numbers of population and square miles for every country in *You la ba guo*. The material I found to be related to *You la ba guo* is *System of Geography use of Schools*, written by Morse Sidney Edwards (1844). It was a textbook on geography used in American schools and colleges in the nineteenth century. I realized that the content and arrangement of *You la ba guo* are the same as *System of Geography*; in other words, *You la ba guo* was translated from part of *System of Geography* in Shanghai dialect.

#### Examples:

- 1. Europe is the smallest, but most englightened and powerful grand division of the earth.
- 第一 油拉八國 天底下算最小个國度, 唯獨百姓末算明白哰最有權柄个拉。

- 2. Large portions of Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, are ruled by Europen powers.
- 第二 愛息國,亞非利伽,亞美利伽,搭啞司脫來息阿,小半把撥拉油拉八管束个。
- 3. Christianity everywhere prevails except in Turkey. The Greek Church is established in Russia and Greece; and in the rest of Europe, the northern nations are generally Protestant, and the southern half is generally mountains.
- 第三 除子偷政改國裡 末禿相信耶穌个。 稱利克个道理末 俄羅斯 搭子 稱利克司 設立拉个;教油拉八个別處末, 北半片是相信耶穌个, 南半片是相信天主教个。
- 4. The northern half of Europe, except parts of Sweden and Norway, is an immense plain; the southern half is generally mountainous.
- 第四 油拉八个北半片, 除子雖衣囤 搭子 拿淮 是平个地皮, 南半片末高个。
- 5. The five most powerful states are Russia, Great Britain, France, Austria, and Prussia. The three most englighted nations are the British, French, and Germans. 第五 五个省 權柄 算大个 就是俄羅斯, 大辟登, 佛朗西, 了司底利亞, 搭子 白安瀉。三處最明白个百姓是 英吉利, 佛朗西, 酬美利國 个人只那。

The English part above are *System of Geography use of Schools*, and the Chinese part are *You la ba guo*. I add punctuations in the Chinese part which cannot be found in the original texts.