<<威克菲尔德的牧师>>

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内容概要

奥利弗·哥尔德斯密斯的《威克菲尔德的牧师》是英国感伤主义的名作之一,这部名作既是社会小说,又是家庭小说。

小说主人公普里姆罗斯博士以第一人称叙述他一家悲欢离合的经过。

他们本属小康之家,待人宽厚,宾至如归。

但过于天真,缺乏处世经验,屡遭欺凌。

普里姆罗斯受经理他财产的商人之累,不幸破产,只得远离家乡去担任一个小教区的牧师。

不久,长女奥利维亚为当地乡绅桑希尔诱骗后又遭遗弃。

同时住宅失火,全家几乎无栖身之地,桑希尔又暗使奸计,使牧师无力还债而入狱;次女索菲娅险入 歹徒之手:长子因找玷辱他家门风的桑希尔决斗而被捕。

正当山穷水尽之时,幸得桑希尔的叔父威廉爵士搭救,绝处逢生。

威廉爵士娶索菲娅为妻,取消了桑希尔继承他财产的权利,并把其中的三分之一划归奥利维亚,牧师一家得以团聚。

小说一方面描写了社会现实的黑暗和罪恶,另一方面又创造了一幅纯朴、真诚、理想化了的田园家庭 生活的图画以鼓舞读者。

其中的主人公普里姆罗斯博士启发狄更斯创作小说《'匹克威克外传》的主人公匹克威克的形象。 哥尔德斯密斯的小说在其他方面也对狄更斯的创作发生过影响。

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