

- 7 *Measure for Measure* by Ch'iu Ts'un-chen (邱存眞)
- 8 *Romeo and Juliet* by Ts'ao Yü (曹禺)
- 9 Twenty-seven tragedies and comedies translated by Chu Sheng-hao (朱生豪)
- 10 Ten historical plays translated by Yu Erh-ch'ang (虞爾昌)
- 11 *King Lear* translated by Sun Ta-yu (孫大雨)
- 12 *Julius Caesar* and *Coriolanus* translated by Hsia Mi (夏鼐)

And there are bound to be others I have missed. Among the translations mentioned above, I should particularly point out the works of Chu Sheng-hao and Yu Erh-ch'ang, which, when taken together, form the complete works, and that Sun Ta-yu's translation is the only version which attempts to render Shakespeare into *pai-hua* poetry.

As the twenty plays I have translated were done over a wide span of time, their format suffers one inconsistency, and that is there are fewer footnotes in the earlier translations and more in the later translations. I had imagined at the beginning of the project that, as the translations were intended for Chinese readers, I should do my best to make them comprehensible and readable without the help of footnotes. However, after I had completed several plays Dr. Hu suggested that I should put in annotations, so I inserted some where they were most needed. As I carried on with my work, my interest in footnotes grew and so their number gradually increased. I have no time now to go over the translations again thoroughly, so all addenda and revisions will have to be left till the publication of the complete corpus.

Finally, I should add a word of explanation on the illustrations I have used. They are all taken from *The Complete Works* edited by Charles and Mary Cowden Clarke, which was published about 1864 and includes some 300-odd etchings. Hsiao Meng-neng owns a copy of this edition. The reproduction of these etchings has done a great deal to enliven my volumes and I would like to express my thanks here to Mr. Hsiao for his kindness in this matter.

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How to Translate the Bard

With characteristic modesty and wry humour, Liang Shih-ch'iu likes to tell his friends that the translator of the complete works of Shakespeare must meet three requirements: (1) He must not be talented; because if talented, he will become a creative writer on his own, and translation will be beneath his dignity. (2) He must not be scholarly; because if scholarly, he will go into research, and translation will be against his inclination. (3) He must live to a ripe old age, otherwise he would not be able to finish the work. Prof. Liang claims to have fulfilled all three requirements and have therefore the good fortune of completing the Chinese version of Shakespeare, totalling three million characters.