<<弥尔顿政治著作选>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

John Milton was not only the greatest English Renaissance poet but also devoted twenty years to prose writing in the advancement of religious, civil and political liberties. The height of his public career was as chief propagandist to the Commonwealth reg; ime which came into being following the execution of King Charles I in 1649. The first of the two complete texts in this volume, 77ze Tenure of Kings and Magistratcs, was easily the most radical justification of the regicide at the time. In the second, A Dcfenc of the People of England, Milton undertook to vindicate the Commonwealth's cause to Europe as a whole. They are central to an understanding both of the development of Milton's political thought and the climax of the English Revolution itself. This is the first time that fully an_notated versions have been published together in one volume, incorporating a wholly new translation of the Dqfence. The introduction outlines the complexity of the ideological landscape which Milton had to negotiate, and in particular the points at which he departed radically from his sixteenth - century predecessors. Further aids to students include a full chronology of Milton's life and important contemporary events, a select bibliography, and biographies of persons mentioned in the text.



书籍目录

AcknowledgementsNote on the textsIntroductionPrrnapal events in Milton's lifeBibliographical noteList of abbreviationsThe Tenure of Kings and MagistratesA Defence of the People of EnglandPREFACEChapter Chapter Singraphical notesIndex of scriptural citationsIndex of subjectsIndex of proper names

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章节摘录

So if this method of punishment is considered-more moderate when used by a king against his people, why is the same method not believed to be more moderate when used by a people against their king, and even more welcome to file king himseIP. You preferred the king to be killed secretly and without witnesses, either so that no memory should remain of the wholesome nature of such a good example or so that the consciousness of such a glorious deed should have avoided the light and to have had laws and justice itself by no means in its support.

Then you heighten the matter by saying that it was not in the uproar or the factional strife of the nobles, or in the frenzy of rebels, soldiers or people, not from hatred, nor fear, nor eagemess to rule, nor blind impulse of mind, but by planning and design that they accomplished the crime they had long meditated. O you deserved indeed to turn from being a lawyer into a grammarian! You who, from the accidents of a case, as they say, which in themselves have no force, commence Scolding when you have not yet proved whether the deed should be judged eirher as faulty or praiseworthy. Now see how easily H will attack you: if the deed was fair and fitting

, the authors are the more gready to be praised because they were occupied by no senti- ments but acted for the sake of virtue alone. If it was difficult and burdensome, they are the more greatly to be praised because they acted not on blind impulse but by plaruung and design. However would rather believe that these things were done by dMne instigation, whenever recall to nund the unexpected eagemess of spirit, the firm agreement with which the whole army, wtuch a great part of the populace had joined, 'from almost all counties in the kingdom, wirh one voice, 6 demanded punishment for the king himself as the author of all their ills.



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