

小泉八雲と山陰

平成20年度 米子工業高等専門学校・米子市教育文化事業団
米子市立図書館 共催事業文化講演会

○講師／米子工業高等専門学校教授 酒井康宏 氏

○日時／平成20年11月22日(土) 午後2時より (4時終了予定)

○場所／米子市立図書館 大会議室 (入場無料)



MEMPHIS TO NEW ORLEANS.

A Glimpse of the Mississippi Down Below.

Correspondence Cincinnati Commercial.

NEW ORLEANS, November 14.

The antiquity of the name Memphis—a name suggesting vastness and ruin—compels something of reverential feeling; and I approached the Memphis of the Mississippi dreaming solemnly of the Memphis of the Nile. I found the great cotton mart truly Egyptian in its melancholy decay, and not, therefore, wholly unworthy of its appellation. Tenantless warehouses, with shattered windows; poverty-stricken hotels that vainly strive to keep up appearances; rows of once splendid buildings, from whose facades the paint has almost all scaled off; mock “stone fronts,” whence the stucco has fallen in patches, exposing the humble brick reality underneath; dinginess, dirt and dismal dilapidation greet the eye at every turn. The city’s life seems to have contracted about its heart, leaving the greater portion of its body paralyzed. Its commercial pulse appears to beat very feebly. It gives one the impression of a place that had been stricken by some great misfortune beyond hope of recovery. Yet, Memphis still handles one-fifth of the annual cotton crop—often more than a million bales in a season—and in this great branch of commerce the city will always hold its own, though fine buildings crumble and debts accumulate and warehouses lie vacant.

ラフカディオ・ハーン／小泉八雲。山陰の地をこよなく愛した八雲。この八雲のあまり知られていないアメリカ時代のこと、また八雲の中に見られるアイルランド性などについて、さらにまた、伯耆地方と八雲の意外な結び付きなどについて、アメリカ文学研究者の視点から語っていただきます。

問い合わせ先／米子市立図書館 TEL0859-22-2612

※英文記事は、1877年11月23日発行「シンシナティ・コマーシャル」紙掲載のハーンの文章。肖像はアメリカ時代1873年(23歳)のハーン。いずれも、八雲会発行「へるん」より。