4-09 Royal espionage （n.）侦察，间谍活动

Alfred the Great acted as充当/扮作……的角色 his own spy, visiting Danish camps 方式状disguised假扮 as a minstrel吟游歌手.

[In those days] wandering漫游的；闲逛的 minstrels中世纪的吟游歌手 were welcome everywhere. They were not fighting men, and their harp竖琴 was their passport.

Alfred had learned many of their ballads民歌 in his youth, and could vary his programme with acrobatic杂技的 tricks and simple conjuring魔术，戏法.

While Alfred's little army slowly began to gather at Athelney(英国一个小岛), the king himself set out to penetrate打入，渗入 the camp of Guthrum, 同位the commander of the Danish invaders侵略者.

These had settled down驻扎 目的状for the winter at Chippenham(英国一城市): thither向那里 Alfred went.（句首的These 这里指 the Danish invaders。）

He noticed at once that discipline纪律 was slack涣散的: the Danes had the self-confidence of conquerors征服者, and their **security**安全的，保安的 **precautions**（n.）预防，防备 were casual随便的，漫不经心的.

They lived well, on靠……生活 the proceeds所得 of raids劫掠 on neighbouring regions. There they collected women **as well as**既…又…（前半是重点） food and drink, and a life of ease had made them soft.

Alfred stayed in the camp a week before he returned to Athelney（地名）.

The force there assembled was trivial （adj.）微不足道的 compared with the Danish horde （n.）一大群；游牧部落.

But Alfred had deduced推断 ①that the Danes were no longer fit for prolonged长期的；持续很久的 battle: and ②that their commissariat军粮供应；物资供应所 had no organization组织；安排；筹备, but depended on irregular不规则的；不定期的 raids.

So, faced with the Danish advance, Alfred **did** **not** risk冒险(做…) open battle **but** harried骚扰 the enemy.

He was constantly 表on the move, 结果状drawing the Danes after him.

His patrols巡逻队，侦察队 halted使（生长、发展、活动等）停止；使中断；阻止 the raiding parties群；伙: hunger assailed猛烈袭击 the Danish army.

[Now] Alfred began a long series of skirmishes小规模战斗；小冲突——and [within a month] the Danes had surrendered投降.

The episode（n.）一个事件，片断 could reasonably合理的，有道理的 serve as a unique epic史诗 of royal espionage（n.）侦察；间谍活动!

1. thither Alfred went，这里使用了「倒装语序」，以使上下文连接更为紧密。thither意为to that place(向那里），旧用法

thi-ther [ 'ði-ðә] ad.向那里，到那边，向那方

hi-ther [ˈhɪ-ðə(r)] adv. <古>到此处，向此处。

hither and thither 到处，向各处，忽此忽彼

1. on the proceeds of中的on与动词lived搭配使用，构成live on，表示“靠……生活”之意。
2. neighbouring regions前的on与raid搭配使用，用来表示“袭击”之意。raid on 对…的袭击
3. …（重点） as well as …（非重点）：不仅…而且…。
4. be fit for 适应，适合，适宜于。常用来表示资格、能力、条件等适应、适合或适宜于某种目的、某项任务、某种情况等。
5. drawing the Danes after him牵着丹麦人的鼻子而让他们跟着他跑。

4-10 Silicon （n.）硅 valley

Technology trends（n.） may push Silicon Valley back to the future.

Carver Mead, 同位a pioneer in integrated （adj.）一体化的 circuits线路，电路 / and a professor of computer science at the California **Institute协会；学院 of Technology**理工科专科学校, notes强调指出 there are now work-stations that enable engineers to design, test and produce chips [right on their desks], 方式状much （in）the way an editor creates a newsletter(某组织定期发送的)内部通讯，简报 on a Macintosh.

原因状As the time and cost of making a chip drop to a few days and a few hundred dollars, engineers may soon be free to let their imaginations soar without being penalized惩罚 by expensive failures.

Mead（人名） predicts that inventors will be able to perfect使完美 powerful customized定制，定做 chips [over a weekend] at the office —— 结果状①spawning引起，酿成 a new generation of garage start-ups启动，（新企业或工程）开办阶段的/ and ②giving the U.S. a jump on its foreign rivals 目的状in getting new products to market推销 fast.

'We're got more garages车库 with smart people,' Mead observes评论道. 'We really thrive on anarchy（n.）无秩序；无政府状态.' （我们有更多的汽车间，那里有许多聪明人。我们确实是靠这种无政府状态发展起来的）

And on通过，借助于 Asians. Already, orientals东亚人 and Asian Americans constitute构成；组成 the majority（n.）大多数 of the engineering staffs at many Valley firms. And Chinese, Korean, Filipino and Indian engineers are graduating从…接受学位 **in droves**（n.）一批批，成群地 from California's colleges.

作为As the heads of next-generation start-ups, these Asian innovators改革者；创新者 can draw on利用 customs and languages 目的状从to forge锻造 tighter links with crucial（adj.）关键性的 Pacific Rim markets.（forge links with… 与…建立联系。）

For instance, Alex Au, a Stanford Ph. D哲学博士. from Hong Kong, has set up a Taiwan factory 目的状to challenge Japan's near（adj.）近似的；差不多的 lock on the memory-chip market.

India-born N.Damodar Reddy's tiny California company reopened an AT&T chip plant工厂 in Kansas City last spring 伴随状with financing（n.）筹措资金；融资 from the state of Missouri.

Before it becomes a retirement（n.）退休 village, Silicon Valley may prove证明是 a classroom for building a global business.

1. garage start-ups 车库起家者，创始于车库的私人公司
2. drove [ drәuv] n.群，移动的人群或大批东西
3. Ph.D指哲学博士 Doctor of Philosophy