

**AMERICA IN THE
CHINA
RELIEF EXPEDITION**

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America in the China Relief Expedition by A. S. Daggett

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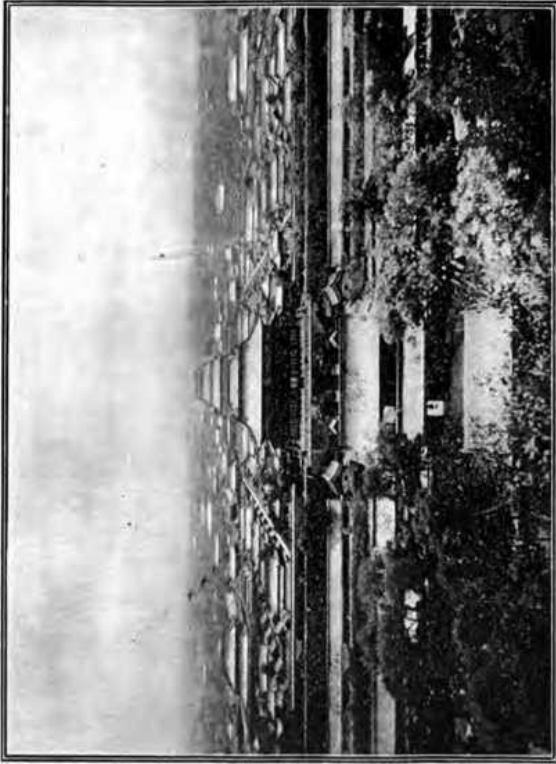
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A. S. DAGGETT

**AMERICA IN THE
CHINA
RELIEF EXPEDITION**



THE FORBIDDEN CITY, FROM COAL HILL.

America

IN THE

China Relief Expedition

BY

BRIG.-GEN. A. S. DAGGETT,
U. S. Army, Retired.

*An account of the brilliant part taken by United States
troops in that memorable campaign in the summer
of 1900, for the relief of the beleaguered
Legations in Peking, China.*

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS.

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PREFACE.

Since my arrival in America from China and the Philippines, on February 3, 1901, I have been requested many times to tell the story of the China Relief Expedition to audiences varying in numbers from fifty to four thousand. In most instances, friends and strangers have urged me to put into more elaborate and permanent form the material which almost unequalled opportunities had given me. Acting on these suggestions, the following pages have been penned.

So much has been written on this expedition that it would seem that the subject had been exhausted; but most writers have attempted to cover the whole field of operations, and have left out, necessarily perhaps, much that the Americans did which ought to be preserved. And as the campaign for the relief of the beleaguered Legations in Peking in August, 1900, was in many respects unique, and will so live in history, there seems to be room for a book which shall put in convenient and concise form a more detailed account of America's share in that expedition than has hitherto appeared.

I, therefore, have attempted to collect, as far as possible, the facts of the movements and accomplishments of the United States troops, referring to foreign contingents only as has been necessary to make the narrative intelligible.

It would be manifestly improper, as well as contrary to army regulations, to praise or censure officers; I have confined myself, therefore, to a statement of facts, and all the facts, so far as I have been able to obtain them. Many things must have occurred which came not to my personal notice, nor by way of information, and which, unfortunately, may never be recorded.

In writing these pages, I have drawn from my own personal experience and observation as far as they would serve me, and

from official reports and documents. I am indebted to the War Department for the maps and many of the illustrations used, and to the Navy Department for valuable information pertaining to that branch of the service.

I am also under obligations to the Surgeon-General and Chief Signal Officer of the Army and the Commandant of the Marine Corps for reports giving information concerning the labors done in their respective lines of work.

I have abstained from reading books and general literature on the Relief Expedition to avoid being misled by the crude and inaccurate accounts of which I have heard so much. I have departed from this rule, however, in one instance, and have read and received much information from General J. H. Wilson's "Travels in the Middle Kingdom."

While in Peking, I had many conversations with missionaries, and especially with Doctors Martin and Reid, from whom I obtained information that could not have been drawn from any other source. I am also indebted to officers of the Ninth and Fourteenth Infantry for many details which came under their personal observation.

BOSTON, *April*, 1903.

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