

# **LIFE AND SPORT IN CHINA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649200924

Life and sport in China by Oliver G. Ready

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**OLIVER G. READY**

**LIFE AND  
SPORT IN CHINA**



LIFE AND SPORT IN CHINA

# LIFE AND SPORT IN CHINA

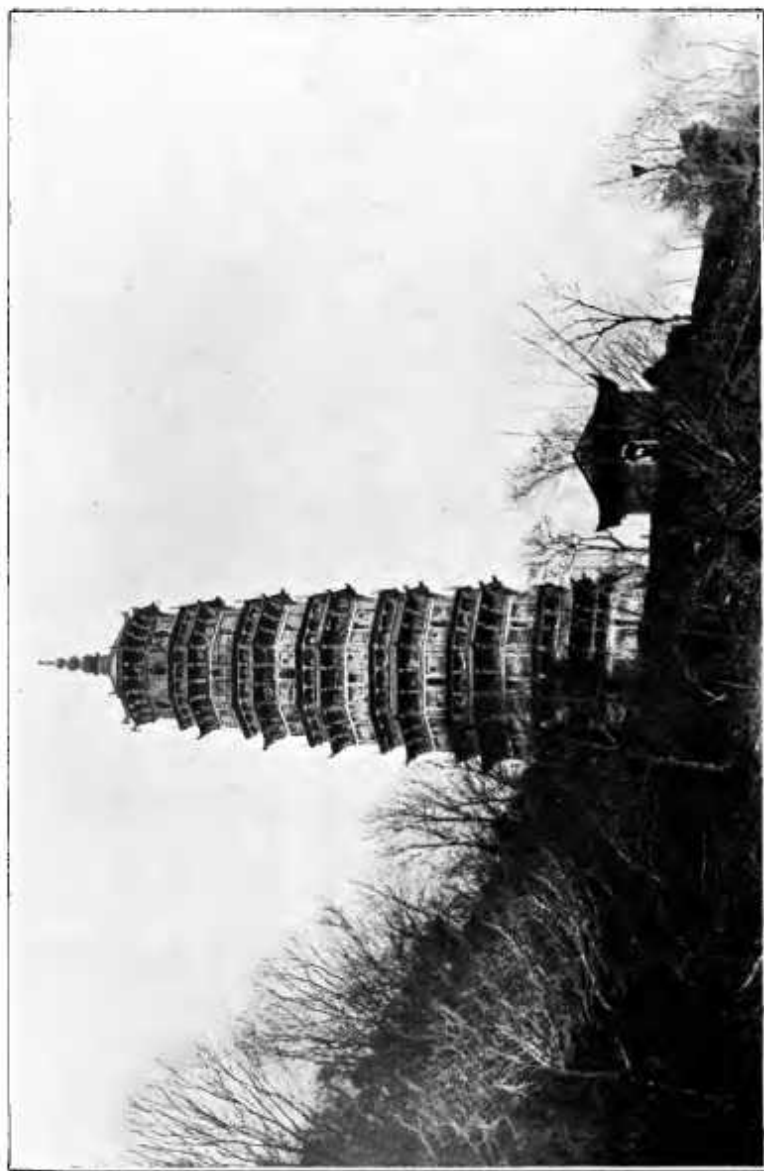
BY  
OLIVER G. READY, B.A.

*SECOND EDITION*



LONDON  
CHAPMAN & HALL, LIMITED

1904



FAGODIA, NEAR HANKOW.

*P. von Siles.*

## AUTHOR'S NOTE

THE British public is greatly handicapped in forming an intelligent appreciation of happenings in China by a lack of that initial experience which can only be gained by residence in the country.

In this little work I have endeavoured to place before readers a sketch of things as I saw them, and to convey to their minds an idea of how Europeans live there, of their amusements, of their work, and of those things which are matters of daily interest to them, so that my book may serve as a kind of preface to that enthralling volume, the current history of China, as it is daily revealed in the press, in magazines and in learned works.

While confining myself herein to the lighter side of narrative, I am not unconscious of those intricate problems and deep studies connected with the Far East, but to which profound research and matured judgment must be applied, though information thereon, even when collected and published, would appeal mostly to the narrow circle of experts on matters Chinese.

The vast Empire of China with its hundreds of millions of toiling slaves, with its old, old civilisation reaching back for untold years prior to the dawn of history in the West, with its manners and customs



so worn into the national character that they almost form the character itself, with its fertile plains, its sandy deserts, its lofty mountains, its mighty rivers, its torrid heat and arctic cold, its devastating floods, its cruel famines and loathsome epidemics, represents a *mass*, the contemplation of which staggers the mind and makes one ask, "What is Europe trying to do here? Does she hope to conquer, to change or to purify?"

After a residence of twelve years in various parts of the country I instinctively feel that while military occupation by the Great Powers may be possible, not only is China in a sense unconquerable, but that she is eminently a conquering nation, though not by clash of arms. Insidiously, remorselessly and viciously she will subdue apostles of the West who are sent to her, and unless persistently restrained will overflow into adjacent lands and conquer there by cheap labour and unremitting toil.

For the photographs I am indebted to the generosity of Mrs T. Child, as well as to T. T. H. Ferguson, A. J. E. Allen, Carlos Cabral and the late H. Hall, Esquires.

## CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. ANGLO-CHINESE LIFE . . . . .	1
II. SERVANTS AND TRADESMEN . . . . .	26
III. SHOOTING . . . . .	46
IV. RIDING . . . . .	73
V. SAILING . . . . .	96
VI. JAMBOREES . . . . .	119
VII. AROUND PEKING . . . . .	139
VIII. HERE AND THERE . . . . .	169
IX. THE MARRIAGE TIE . . . . .	197
X. DISCUSSED POINTS: PEOPLE, LANGUAGE, MIS- SIONARIES, CHANCES . . . . .	212

