

**BOY'S BOOK
OF THE ARMY**

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Boy's Book of the Army by Charles King & John Habberton

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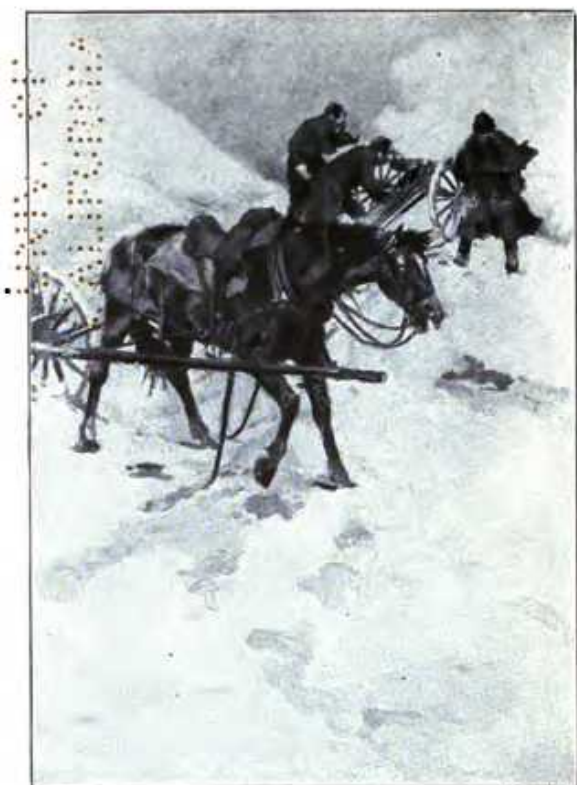
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CHARLES KING & JOHN HABBERTON

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OF THE ARMY**



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"THEY SENT SHELL AFTER SHELL INTO THE VILLAGE"

BOY'S BOOK OF THE ARMY

BY

GEN. CHARLES KING, JOHN HABBERTON
CAPTAIN CHARLES A. CURTIS
LIEUT. CHARLES D. RHODES
AND OTHERS

UNIV. OF
ILLUSTRATED
CALIFORNIA



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The Boys' Library.

Illustrated—Jackets Printed in Colors

BOYS' BOOK OF COWBOYS
BOYS' BOOK OF INDIANS
BOYS' BOOK OF PIRATES
BOYS' BOOK OF THE RAILROAD
BOYS' BOOK OF THE SEA
BOYS' BOOK OF THE ARMY
BOYS' BOOK OF THE NAVY

TO THE
AMERICAN

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CONTENTS

- RECAPTURED
By GENERAL CHARLES KING, U.S.A.
- A VERY LITTLE FELLOW
By LIEUTENANT CHARLES D. RHODES, U.S.A.
- HOW REDDY GAINED HIS COMMISSION
By CAPTAIN CHARLES A. CURTIS, U.S.A.
- AT THE HELIO STATION
By FRANK L. POLLOCK
- "BILLY" OF BATTERY B
By COLGATE BAKER
- FLORIDE'S PATIENT
By BERTHA WATSON
- A RELIC-HUNTER'S STRANGE EXPERIENCE
By JOHN HABBERTON
- CLARE'S RIDE
By CHARLES L. HLDRETH
- HOW HO-TO-OTO BECAME A RECRUIT
By LAURA FITCH McQUISTON
- "SCAPEGRACE"
By GENERAL CHARLES KING, U.S.A.
- THE SURRENDER OF COCHISE
By JULIAN RALPH
- WITH CAPRON AT EL CANEY
By FLETCHER C. RANSOME
- ON AN ARIZONA TRAIL
By CAPTAIN CHARLES A. CURTIS, U.S.A.

ILLUSTRATIONS

"THEY SENT SHELL AFTER SHELL INTO THE VILLAGE"	<i>Frontispiece</i>
"TEDDY WAS CLINGING TO THE TRUNK, AND REDDY SWIMMING IN THE BOILING CURRENT"	<i>Facing p. 46</i>
"A BREATHLESS BOY STUMBLED FORWARD INTO THEIR ARMS, SOBBING OUT: 'THE BRIDGE!'"	" 166
"PLACING HIS HEAD WITHIN THE EN- TRANCE HE CALLED: 'OH, MR. ARNOLD —WE ARE HERE!'"	" 216

INTRODUCTION

FOR the most part these stories of brave deeds in army life show the kind of men who guarded our West in the days of hostile Indians. While these tales are usually fiction, yet the fiction is usually founded upon some incident of actual occurrence. The old frontier posts have now disappeared. They were centres of a life of adventure and often of a silent heroism, in which women and children as well as officers and men bore their full share. It was a lonely life, but full of picturesque incident and thrilling experiences, as these pages show. Many adventures of Uncle Sam's soldiers are told in the volumes of *Harper's Strange Stories from History*, which sketch events in our great wars. In the present volume it has seemed peculiarly worth while to afford a glimpse of the soldier's work in clearing the way for civilization upon this continent.

There is the more reason for this because the courage and endurance of the American regular

INTRODUCTION

soldier, during the long years of Indian hostilities in the West, has never received just recognition. The British soldier in every corner of the world has been celebrated by poets and story-writers, and he has received substantial rewards from the authorities at home. Many a brave deed by American soldiers in our West, which has passed almost unnoticed, would have given a theme equal to Kipling's subjects, and the heroes were equally deserving of recognition. But the wretched mistakes in our treatment of Indians, due so largely to politicians and dishonest agents, have reacted unfavorably upon those who were simply the instruments of their superiors—upon the American regular soldiers. So much may properly be said, even in an introduction to a story-book which offers, first of all, entertainment. That will be found, assuredly, in these tales of daring, not only in the West, but elsewhere, for there are glimpses of the great war, and also of the stern duty which may devolve upon the soldier when law is set at naught in civil life.

While these are tales for younger readers, and young actors play a frequent part, it may well happen that this book will tempt some one to