

Ansd
July 9 - 48

WILLIAM WALLACE NICHOLS
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Dear Laura Gilpin; -

I've digested your Temples in Yucatan with satisfaction & admiration of the splendid quality of your research, which I can appreciate because it resembles so closely that displayed by my Biographer Floyd McKnight (of N.Y.) in "The Pioneer" (myself). Reading your work as I did I was constantly reminded of Col. Chusewards tale of the Island of Mu with a population of over 25 million located mid-Pacific, north of Japan; at the suggestion of an intimate, I spent the winter, over 30 yrs ago, reading the 6-8 Imperial Octavo volumes - fascinated. Col. C. was an English Col. stationed on the Tibetan Border, where he encountered a Tibetan Lama, who showed Col. C. his large library of stone-plates covered with hieroglyphics, which the former translated for the latter's delectation. Mu inhabitants a highly intelligent people were induced to wander abroad (Asia & America) and Col. C. claimed he found evidences of their exploration indicated by the Swastika (their invention) in a ^{deeply} buried City N.E. of Mexico City, which he described in detail.

In addition to the above, I was reminded of a Yale Alumnus of mine, Professor of Archaeology(?) in the Academic Dept. (whose name slips my ancient & treacherous memory) when I was Prof. of English in

the Scientific Dept. - Being an Archeologist, he started a flight by his private plane to Peru specifically. In his report of his findings, he described a birds eye view of an apparently ancient ^{ruined} city in Yucatan on his flight to Peru, where he landed for the exploration, the main reason ~~for~~ ^{of} his journey. I have a distinct recollection of this episode and am disgusted by my inability to recall his name, a common failure of mine in this near-90 years of great mental activity.

Did you ever hear of my then-intimate colleague? I have to confess to an aged inability to remember my own name in moments of abstraction.

I wish you were nearer than New Mexico, so that I could exhibit my beautiful new home, which I gave ~~to~~ Marian - the Deeds are in her name, with the provision that I shall occupy it as long as I live, which may be long if the prediction of many years ago, of a Spanish Soothsayer ~~you~~ prevail. This performance was "forced" on me, when my nephew Chas. Edison was FOR's Sec'y of the U.S. Navy and his wife Carolyn were entertaining me in Washington D.C. Marian tells me, that you're engaged on a "Camera Chronicle of the Rio Grande. Last week I crossed the "highest Suspension Bridge in the World" over the Royal Gorge. It's worthwhile as you probably know. -

With affectionate regards believe me
July 4th. 1948

Very Sincerely

W. W. Nichols