

Nov. 9, 1847.

Mr. Walter Freese,
HASTINGS HOUSE, INC.,
67 W. 44th St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Freese:-

A word of explanation is certainly due you following a few more editorial changes in my text for **TEMPLES IN YUCATAN**. First, a whole year has gone by since it was written and in that time several new conceptions of come into being and new reports of finds have been made. When I first went to Dr. Morley to ask him to check my text, his willingness (as an old friend) to do so was very apparent. At that time his new book was in its final stages. I took him my first very rough draft to check entirely on the grounds of the facts included. I found to my dismay (this is entirely between ourselves) that he paid far more attention to my typographical errors, punctuation etc. none of which were even to be considered at that stage, than he did to the main issue. This was doubtless due to the fact that he was at that time engrossed in proof reading his own ms. After he had finished mine, (just prior to his departure for Merida last winter) I found a number of inconsistencies which left me high and dry and digging facts and knowledge out for myself.

Just this week, a young woman here, Miss Bertha Dutton, curator of anthropology here at the N.M. Museum, brought me her thesis to read which is a paper of some importance. It's subject is **THE TOLTECS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE CULTURE OF CHICHEN ITZA**. Had I been aware of her interest and knowledge months before, I could have turned to her for help, for I am no scientist, and my endeavor is to be a sort of go-between, or interpreter between the scientist and the layman. I have just read Miss Dutton's thesis which is very convincing, both as to her written material and research, and the illustrations upon which she draws. She in turn read this last proof from you of mine and we agreed on the changes indicated. These consisted of minor changes in body text to get away from using terms

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which indicated that the Maya were responsible for North Chichen Itza, for it very convincingly shows in the light of much new research, both Miss Dutton's and others, including much in Dr. Morley's new book, that the Toltecs had a dominating influence. So I have evaded any direct statement and left it open as much as possible. Miss Dutton also informs me, (Dr. Morley has already gone down to Yucatan or I should have gone to him direct) that Dr. Morley has joined ranks with other scientists on the correlation of dates. This presented a discrepancy in my text which had to be corrected. I made every effort to make as few changes as possible and in making the ones I did as easy as possible so that only one line need be re-set. I have worried a bit about making these changes as long as I have made the statement in the Preface concerning Dr. Morley's checking the text, but as they include changes which have also occurred in his own book in comparison to his earlier work, I go on faith that it will be O.K. with him. The most drastic change was in the Chronology page, which is much more simple to correct.

Mr. Dreyer may be annoyed at my making further changes at this time. I wrote him a detailed list, and explanation, but I think you should have it also.

I am anxious to know how the book has worked out with the re-arrangements I made in the pages, and I hope you can send me something to see, even only a pencil dummy. Should anything occur regarding which you wish to communicate with me, my telephone is Santa Fe 301 J and as no one will answer unless I am at home, a station to station call would be in order.

In the event that you send me anything more, I plead again to send it airmail. A whole week was lost on this last proof. It could have reach you last Monday, had it come airmail, instead of to-morrow. The difference in postage, 42¢. I cannot foresee any further difficulty and as there were still other errors to be corrected, one very bad one of a main heading, I hope that my additional ones will not cause consternation.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,