

MADEIRA, HILL & COMPANY

260 SOUTH BROAD STREET
PHILADELPHIA

February 27, 1931.

Dear Alden:

Thanks a lot for your very interesting letter of February 12th which reached me yesterday. I am delighted to hear that everything is going along so well.

The Hope Expedition came back without having accomplished anything, and, as you write, apparently had a lot of trouble. Verrill went with them, as well as a writer called George Allen England, and I believe the latter's nephew. Peters also went, but DaCosta stayed home on account of his wife's health. The expedition failed because Hope could not locate his objective from the ground. He has various plans in mind, most of which are impracticable. I think nothing will be done about it until next year.

I appreciate a lot the information you have given me about the Hotel project at Chichen Itza, as well as the matter of liability insurance. I am writing to Barbachano on this matter, as it certainly should be looked into and covered in the event that responsibility would fall upon the tourist agency instead of upon the railroad.

I am afraid it will be impossible for me to come down this Spring. I certainly wish I could do so and would like nothing better than to go up with Morley and his party at the end of March and see both Piedras Negras and Yaxchalan from the ground.

Smith wrote an article about our flight which was published in the Sportsman Pilot for February, which was pretty good and which was superbly illustrated. I have not yet finished mine for the Museum's Bulletin but there is, apparently, no hurry as it may not come out for a long time yet.

Gregory Mason's lecture went off very well before a fairly crowded house. Sam Lothrop and his wife were there, so I sat with them and afterwards took them out home with me. I am only too sorry you could not have postponed your trip to have dined with Gregory, Smith and me afterwards, and I am even more sorry that I see no prospects of being able to visit you at Piedras Negras.

Sincerely yours

DR. J. ALDEN MASON
c/o Senor Francisco,
Villa Nueva, Tenosique,
Tabasco, Mexico

Perry C. Madeira

Camp Piedras Negras, Guatemala.
April 21, 1931.

Dear Percy:

Your good letter of February 27 was received a long time ago and I have been intending ever since to answer it but have just been too busy. Now an attack of malaria, not so serious, keeps me around camp for a few days so I am catching up on correspondence.

I was disappointed to hear of the failure of the Hope Expedition. I presume he'll try again next year.

My wife just wrote that she had forgotten to tell me before that you had sent a complete set of the magnificent pictures which Smitty took on the trip. Million de gracias, amigo. Apropos of Smitty, I took a subscription to the Literary Digest, and saw his smiling face in almost the first page I opened of the first issue we got. Maybe you didn't see it; I enclose it. Hope to see his article in the Sportsman Pilot some time.

Morley and his crowd came through here several weeks ago and at present are further up river at Yaxchilan. They expect to be back with us May 4th to spend two days with us -- they spent two on the way up.

I presume Gregory Mason got off for Santa Marta, Colombia, late in March, as Jayne wrote me had been arranged. I am sure the arrangement was made. The territory has been very slightly explored and is rich, and I believe he will return with a beautiful collection if he has no trouble in getting them out. I wrote him a long letter of advice when I heard it, and wrote Laufer asking him to send Gregory, if possible, a set of galley proofs of my report on that region, but I haven't heard a word from either Gregory or Laufer about it.

I suppose you hear something from Jayne about our work here. All the former difficulties have been worked out, but others will doubtless arise. We now have a permanent camp and are so sorry that you can't visit us this spring you must by all means. Excavation is going along with many interesting notes and data on architecture, and photographs. I found one new lintel with an initial series broken and only parts of it worth taking home. And a re- But our road is practically done and the wagons and mules are here about May 10 to take the first of the cargo. We will get some of the smaller and broken pieces of pottery.

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260 SOUTH BROAD STREET
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January 11, 1932.

Dear Mr. Jayne:

I understand that at the last meeting of the Board of Trustees you and I were appointed a Committee of the Board to go over the details of the Piedras Negras project in Guatemala with respect to the budget and the organization of the expedition, and in general, to be the representatives of the Trustees responsible to the Board for the proper accomplishment of the Expedition's objectives.

I think it therefore appropriate for me to give you here an outline of my views on this proposition, having in mind at this time more particularly the method of organization which I think should be followed to avoid any risk of failure of the principal plans for which the Expedition was originally endowed.

It seems clear beyond question that the primary attention of the 1932 Expedition should be focused upon the transportation to river navigation of the large stele. There will have been spent at the end of this current year between \$35,000 and \$40,000 on this whole project, and I cannot see how the Museum can justify itself to Mr. Johnson, as the donor of these funds, unless the Expedition returns with at least three of the stele in shape to be erected in the Museum's rooms. No consideration of further archaeological researches, excavations, or studies of the site should, in my judgment, be allowed to count at all as against the overwhelming need of bringing out the stone monuments.

In addition to the three stele for the Museum which I think are the least that the expenditure of the funds warrants, it is also necessary to bear in mind the agreement with the Guatemalan Government under which a similar number of these monuments must be delivered to their representative in Guatemala City. I understand that the cost of transporting these monuments from the site to Guatemala City is to be paid out of the funds of the Expedition in accordance with the contract entered into with the Guatemalan authorities.

The funds of the Expedition are limited. Should a deficit be incurred there is no way at this time by which it can be met. The season at Piedras Negras is of uncertain duration on account of the difficulty of forecasting just when the rains will occur. The expense of preparing the road to river navigation, and the cost of

transporting the objects to go to the Guatemalan Government are of course both subject to the widest possible variation either above or below the estimates which may be made at this time. In other words, the Expedition is limited both in respect to time and money within which to accomplish the recovery and delivery of the stele.

The personnel of the Expedition consists of Dr. Mason as director, Mr. Satterthwaite as second in command and Mr. Paris as architect. In addition, I understand that Mrs. Satterthwaite and Miss Butler will also form a part of the personnel. Of these various members, Dr. Mason is the only one whose familiarity with the language and customs of the country and whose dealings with the various contractors and other parties, equips him to take charge of the actual transportation of the monuments; an undertaking which in my opinion, will require a great deal of the time in the field available to the Expedition, as well as a large part of its funds.

It seems appropriate to suggest that after the Expedition arrives on the ground, a general program of the season's work in investigating, mapping, clearing and digging, should be laid out by Dr. Mason in consultation with the rest of the members and then turned over to Mr. Satterthwaite to be carried out in detail. In like manner such questions as arranging for provisions for the Expedition and the various administrative details at the site itself, should likewise be taken off Dr. Mason's shoulders and turned over to Mr. Satterthwaite, thus leaving Dr. Mason free to devote his entire time to the assembling and transporting to navigable waters of at least six of the best monuments now at the site.

As has already been pointed out, it is difficult to estimate in advance how much time and how much money will be required to accomplish this. After the monuments have all been brought to Tenosique there remains the question as to how the monuments belonging to the Guatemalan Government shall be taken from there to Guatemala City. I doubt very much if any ships can be found which ply between Carmen and Puerto Barrios, the port of entry, as I understand it, into Guatemala and the beginning of the railroad up to its capital. There will probably be one or more trans-shipments en route and possible complications with Mexican officials at the various ports of change. I doubt the wisdom of entrusting the task of transporting these valuable monuments from Carmen to Guatemala City to any one other than Dr. Mason on account of his familiarity with the conditions which are not possessed by other members of the party. I do not think it would be wise to let this question of transporting these monuments to Guatemala be deferred until the Expedition is ready to leave the site for the season

because of the amount of time and money needed to take these objects from Tenosique to Guatemala City; and I therefore feel it desirable that this should be undertaken by Dr. Mason as soon as possible after the selected objects have been brought out to the river.

To sum up; I think the Expedition should immediately proceed to the transport of at least six of the best monuments to Tenosique or wherever else the river steamers can take on the monuments; that Dr. Mason should undertake to see personally that three of them are delivered safely to Guatemala City; that general details of the Expedition work, outside of the matter of transportation, should be turned over to Mr. Satterthwaite and that after the stele have been brought out to navigation and three of them delivered to Guatemala City, the Expedition might then continue in the field for so much additional time on further scientific and archaeological work as the funds in hand and the season of the year then make available.

I understand from you that the reports on last season's work are being written up by Dr. Mason and Mr. Satterthwaite, each one covering such work as he himself directed or performed last season. This seems to me an unusual procedure and one likely to lead to confusion when the two reports are published, which I suppose will be simultaneous. I suggest that it be made the established practice of the Expedition to devote the necessary length of time once every two weeks or so to the collection of all data on work performed up to that time and to compiling it in a single statement, as the official report of the work of the Expedition. This joint assemblage of data in a single compilation would later form the basis of a single report on this season's work.

It is quite likely that a good many of the points covered in this letter are obvious and unnecessary. At the same time I feel so strongly the need to provide against every contingency which might prevent the safe arrival of the six monuments that I am taking the liberty of proposing a plan of organization of the work which may have long ago been agreed upon by you and Dr. Mason together.

Sincerely yours

MR. HORACE H. F. JAYNE, DIRECTOR
University Museum,
West Philadelphia, Pa.

Percy C. Madsen

P.S. I enclose herewith an additional copy of this letter for Dr. Mason's consideration.

April 22, 1932.

Dear Alden:

Miss McHugh has just sent me a copy of your very interesting letter of April 11th. We are terribly interested in the new finds which you have made and will do our best to see if we can get a little more money.

Jayne is in Europe and will not get back until about the 5th of May and Mr. Jenks and I will do what we can along the lines you suggest. By the time this reaches you, it will, of course, all be over one way or the other.

Tell Linton I saw a copy of the letters he and Mrs. Sattersthaite wrote to Mrs. Godfrey so that with your letter and the others I have been well posted on what was going on in Piedras Negras.

I had lunch with Kidder yesterday. He told me that Morley had gone into an enormous new ruin in Southeastern Campeche, found by a botanist for a Chicle Development Company, which contained sixty-one sculptured stelae. Kidder was not familiar with the details, but it occurs to me it might be the ruin the Mexican forester told us about when we were in Merida in December 1930.

Kidder also said that Roberts at Uaxactun had found another superb burial containing old Empire pottery and shredded remains of what he was certain was a codex, as the fibrous material still showed with a little of the lime wash, but all the color and the glyphs had, of course, disappeared.

Gregory Mason is in Honduras, care of the United Fruit Company, Puerto Cortez, doing some ethnological work for the Heye Foundation.

We are all well here and outside of business, also financial griefs, everything is running smoothly.

We wish you every success and we will do what we can to comply with your request.

With kindest regards to yourself and the Sattersthaite, I am

Sincerely yours

Percy Madeira

DR. J. ALDEN MASON.

Piedras Negras,
May 10, 1932.

Dear Percy:

I was delighted to receive yours of April 22d yesterday. There are many letters that I have been intending to write for several months, but as they are not urgent, I keep putting them off until I find time, which I never do. By the time I finish one to Jayne and one home after the urgent ones to keep things running, there is no time for more. Running the executive and financial end of this expedition, superintending the archeology and writing letters requires about thirty hours in the day. I have only just written Johnson for the first time.

Good news travels fast, it seems, or possibly unduly slowly in Mexico, for in the same mail as your letter yesterday came a telegram from Morley telling of the results of his trip: 51 initial series, half of them deciphered. 103 sculptured monuments; dates from 9.9.10.0.0. to 9.19.0.0.0. It is near Calokmul in Campeche and I have thought, as you do, that it must be the one about which that little inspector forestal told us in Merida. Wish we had taken the time to go there, though we couldn't have given the time to it that Morley did, nor done it so well.

Of course you heard that a large part of our camp burnt down two weeks ago, and that we lost much of our equipment, but saved our notes and the equipment that was in use at the time, so we are able to carry on. The greatest loss was the many negatives that we had made, and all the films. But yesterday we got more films, so we are now ready to carry on with that work. Also all our drawing equipment went, so our engineer can do no map work until we get back, although he is going on with the surveying.

It would take me an interminable time to tell you all that we have been doing here, and you must excuse me if I don't as I write very frequently to Jayne, and of course you can read all of those letters when you are at the Museum.

Many thanks for trying to raise more funds for us; as I haven't heard from you, I suppose you had no success. With another thousand I could send out a third load of monuments with eight or ten tons more, probably two large monuments for us and two for Guatemala but I suppose there is no hope of getting that now, or I would have heard from you. Thanks to the rate of exchange, which has risen from 2.90 to 3.10 since I have been here, we are still carrying on and hope to work full force for at least the rest of this week and probably get out several more tons than I ~~had~~ expected. The Guatemalan Inspector here is a good fellow and says that any division that I make is o.k. with him, so we are getting almost everything we want. We have a new lintel with the earliest date in the city, 9.3.19.12.12 if I am right, not so very beautiful, but important on account of the date. Also a fine burial vault of an important personage in a prominent place, with quite a lot of the finest jade. The new screen and throne, the originals of one very much like those shown in the scene in lintel #3, being broken, we will probably bring home with us on mules and boat.

All are well and happy; it is very hot and frequently humid, but with few rains so far. I expect to leave about the end

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May 11, 1932.

Dear Alden:

Miss McHugh has sent to me from time to time copies of your letters, the last one being that of Sunday, April 24th.

I want to congratulate you and the rest of the expedition on the splendid discoveries which you have made this year, including the screen, the pyrite mirror, jade beads, etc. We are all most anxious to know what will be found in the large burial vault.

It was certainly bad luck to have suffered as you did from the fire. As I understand it, however, very little original material was burned of a nature which can not be replaced. It is, however, too bad Miss Butler's work has apparently been almost wrecked by this unfortunate occurrence.

I am confused as to how many monuments you now expect to bring out as the letter spoke of them by tonnage and not by complete units.

I wrote to Mr. Fenimore Johnson asking whether he wished the major part of the work this year to be carried out in the line of excavation rather than transportation because the new discoveries you have written about seemed to alter the original plan we had in mind when you went away. Unfortunately, I have not as yet received any reply, and I understand that Mr. Johnson himself is away. Should he give a definite answer with important news we will, of course, send you a wire.

You may have heard of the tremendous new city in South-eastern Campeche which Morley went to, and where he found 102 stele of which 53 were dated. This site is not very far from the big ruin we found just over the border in Guatemala and from the vague description which I received of Morley's site, it is certainly not the one we saw. If Morley could get to within thirty miles or so of our site, it seems to me next year, providing conditions improve, we might make a determined effort to go back to that area ourselves.

With kindest regards to Linton and Mrs. Satterthwaite, Miss Butler, and all the rest of the party, I am

Sincerely yours,

Percy C. Madeira

DR. J. ALDEN MASON

Piedras Negras, May 28, 1932.

Dear Percy:

Just a very hasty note to acknowledge your good letter of the 11th which came two days ago. Mail is leaving in a few hours so I shall write only a few words. Since Miss McHugh sends you copies of my letters to the Museum, and I presume Jayne does the same now that he is back, as I presume, there is little to say that you do not know.

Stela #12 left Frontera on the 16th, and may be in Philadelphia before we are. I hope that the permission to ship includes the things we are taking out this year so that there will be no need for me to hang around Frontera seeing that the monuments will go out when they get there. It weighs $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons gross. The other good news is that Todd got to San Jose all right a few days ago with his second load of about ten tons in ten boxes, the first load having been three big boxes with a total about the same, two of them being the two parts of the monumantal stela 40 which weighs about 10 tons. He got out cutting lumber for his rafts. He got out on a third trip

When these will be in addition to the other things we are taking out this year so that there will be no need for me to hang around Frontera seeing that the monuments will go out when they get there. It weighs $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons gross. The other good news is that Todd got to San Jose all right a few days ago with his second load of about ten tons in ten boxes, the first load having been three big boxes with a total about the same, two of them being the two parts of the monumantal stela 40 which weighs about 10 tons. He got out cutting lumber for his rafts. He got out on a third trip

Piedras Negras, May 28, 1932.

Dear Percy:

Just a very hasty note to acknowledge your good letter of the 17th which came two days ago. Mail is saving in a few hours so I shall write only a few words. Since Mrs. McHugh sends you copies of my letters to the Museum, and I presume Jayne does the same now that he is back, as I presume, there is little to say that you do not know.

Stela #12 left Fronters on the 16th, and may be in Philadelphia before we are. I hope that the permission to ship includes the things we are taking out this year so that there will be no need for me to hang around Fronters seeing that the monuments will go out when they get there. It weighs $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons gross. The other good news is that Todd got to San Jose all right a few days ago with his second load of about ten tons in ten boxes, the first load having been three big boxes with a total about the same, two of them being the two parts of the monumental stela #40 which weighs $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons. He got out a lumber for his visit. He got out a third trip

Then there will be, in addition to Lintel #11, and one leg #40 is a new one found by ~~Walter~~ Morley, and not shown in water. They are, in addition to #12 which is on its way, #40, #14 and #13. You speak of being uncertain about the monuments coming out, although recent letters may have informed you on this point. We plan to leave a week from tomorrow, June 5, and I am not held up in Tenosique or Fronters on official matters, we should be home before June 30, I mean 20. Satterthwaite and Peggy however, intend to remain a week or two longer, making quiet studies of architecture, etc. Linton is a damn enthusiastic and thorough archeologist, and knows more about Maya archeology than I do now. I am not held up in Tenosique or Fronters on official matters, we should be home before June 30, I mean 20. Satterthwaite and Peggy however, intend to remain a week or two longer, making quiet studies of architecture, etc. Linton is a damn enthusiastic and thorough archeologist, and knows more about Maya archeology than I do now. I am not held up in Tenosique or Fronters on official matters, we should be home before June 30, I mean 20. Satterthwaite and Peggy however, intend to remain a week or two longer, making quiet studies of architecture, etc. Linton is a damn enthusiastic and thorough archeologist, and knows more about Maya archeology than I do now.