

The Lost Continent of Mu

1927-1928



In August George Collinson (a longtime friend and fellow American expatriate who had lived a number of years in Mexico) wrote Niven from New York City. He had just seen a "very remarkable book, *The Lost Continent of Moo* [sic] by Col. J. Churchward." The book contained a chapter on "Niven's Buried Cities" with "a good deal of praise for the important tablets" he had excavated. Collinson wondered if Niven had Churchward's address

Niven responded to Collinson's letter on the 13th. He didn't know Churchward or his work. "I haven't seen 'Lost Continent of Moo' [sic], and if you will kindly send me the publisher's name, I will write for a copy." Since moving to Tampico he hadn't excavated in the Valley of Mexico due to government restrictions. Still, he had over fifteen thousand Valley of Mexico objects in the Niven Museum in Tampico, including more than two thousand of the stone tablets.

Collinson visited the publishers on Fifth Avenue in New York City, purchased a copy of *The Lost Continent of Mu*, and sent it to Niven in Tampico. He also forwarded Churchward's Mount Vernon, New York, address. These were received in early September. Niven was optimistic, yet cautious. "I have already looked over it for a couple of hours, with much pleasure," Niven wrote to Collinson upon receipt of the Churchward book. "The scientist may not accept many of his theories, but it ought