

ment. Documents are arranged chronologically under the headings listed in the title.

A statement in the preface by Oscar Herrera Rebolledo, *subteniente de navío*, tells us that this is the "first book concerning the glorious history of the Marina de Guerra Independiente." For this statement the author is probably not to blame, but it should be pointed out that in 1919 there appeared at Bogotá a work by L. Flórez Alvarez, *Acción de la marina colombiana en la guerra de independencia, 1806-1830*, which among other things places the Maracaibo battle in its historical setting.

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Lost City of the Incas: The Story of Machu Picchu and Its Builders. By HIRAM BINGHAM. (New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1948. Pp. xx, 263. \$5.00.)

Machu Picchu is one of the world's most spectacular archaeological sites and its discovery in 1911 stirred public imagination almost as much as the opening of Tutankhamen's tomb eleven years later. Its name will always be associated with that of its discoverer, Hiram Bingham, and no one could ask for a finer memorial.

The story of the discovery and exploration of Machu Picchu was published almost at once, first in a series of articles in the *National Geographic Magazine* and *Harper's* (1913) and then in a series of technical monographs culminating in Bingham's *Machu Picchu, a Citadel of the Incas* (New Haven, 1930). *Inca Land*, an earlier popular book on Bingham's explorations in Peru, went through three editions in 1922-1923 and has been out of print for some time. *Lost City of the Incas* is a fresh presentation of the story of the discovery of Machu Picchu, bringing together the pertinent material from Bingham's earlier publications and sixty photographs, mostly taken by the author.

As Bingham is careful to point out, his interpretations of the finds at Machu Picchu have never been accepted by archaeologists and historians, and a considerable amount of research has been done by both since Bingham's theories were first propounded. To summarize a rather complex argument in an epigram, the difference of opinion stems from Bingham's tendency to interpret Inca history in terms of Machu Picchu, whereas his colleagues prefer to interpret Machu Picchu in terms of Inca history. The fact remains, however, that thanks to Bingham Machu Picchu is the best described of all known Inca sites, and to all who visit it the high point of their trip to the land of the Incas.

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