

**PAPERS OF THE PEABODY MUSEUM
OF AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY
AND ETHNOLOGY, HARVARD
UNIVERSITY, VOL. X: INDIAN TRIBES
OF EASTERN PERU**

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WILLIAM CURTIS FARABEE

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VOLUME X

INDIAN TRIBES OF EASTERN PERU

BY
WILLIAM CURTIS FARABEE

INTRODUCTION
BY
LOUIS JOHN DE MILHAU

*TWENTY-EIGHT PLATES AND TWENTY ILLUSTRATIONS
IN THE TEXT*

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, U. S. A.
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TO
LOUIS JOHN DE MILHAU
PATRON
PARTNER IN HARDSHIPS
ON MANY TRAILS

INTRODUCTION

By good fortune, when a junior in Harvard College, I became a member of the party organized by Dr. Farabee to explore the interior of Iceland during the summer of 1905. While this is not the place to tell the story of that expedition, I refer to it because it was due to my association in the field with Dr. Farabee at that time that the South American expedition which forms the subject of this volume became a reality. Both my companion, John Walter Hastings, and myself became intensely interested in the general subject of anthropology, and particularly in the field work connected with it. On our way home from Iceland, we decided that there would be an expedition during the next year and that Dr. Farabee would be the leader of it. The details were worked out during the following winter. The interior of Peru, east of the Andes, was selected as a most promising and virgin field, for this was before the days of the numerous university expeditions which have since followed one another into the South American jungle.

The expedition was under the auspices of the Peabody Museum. Besides Dr. Farabee, the party consisted of Hastings and myself as ethnologists, and a surgeon, Dr. Edward Franklin Horr, who had served for a number of years in Cuba and the Philippines as an officer in the Army Medical Corps. President Roosevelt found time, amidst his numerous activities, to receive Hastings and myself at the White House, when he wished us luck, and gave us a strong personal letter to all our diplomatic officials. His Eminence, the late Cardinal Gibbons, wrote for me a letter which was an open sesame within ecclesiastical circles at the Vatican and elsewhere. Many others, too many, unfortunately, to mention individually, in a limited space, gave evidence of their interest and good wishes toward us. In December, 1906, Dr. Farabee, Hastings, and I sailed from New York, southward bound, followed some weeks later by Dr. Horr. On our arrival in Lima, we were officially presented to the President, Señor Pardo, and his

Minister of Finance, Señor Leguía, now President of the Republic, and were the recipients of many courtesies and hospitalities from both Americans and Peruvians. From Lima we continued to Arequipa, where is situated the Harvard Observatory, which city became our base during the time we were in Peru. A short period was devoted to preparation for the actual field work and to short side trips to La Paz and other nearby places. Little could be learned of conditions in the interior beyond the mountains, and so the first journey was somewhat in the nature of a preliminary investigation of the field.

In all, three journeys were made across the Andes and down into the lowlands running eastward from the Atlantic slope of the mountains, as is shown in the map, plate 28 of this volume. On the first incursion, which lasted about six months, we started from the station of Tirapata on the then uncompleted railroad to Cuzco, and went over the tableland and through Aricoma Pass, at an elevation of 16,500 feet; whence the trail descended the eastern slope of the mountains to the rubber camp at Astillero on the Tambopata River. There we waited, short of food and tobacco, for six weeks, until the flooded river could subside sufficiently for canoe travel. From this little settlement we proceeded, with many halts, down the Tambopata and Madre de Dios to Rivera Alta on the Beni and thence overland to Guayamerin, on the Marmoré. Ascending this last river and its tributary, the Chaparé, we found ourselves at the trail head in Bolivia, whence a journey on mule-back brought us to the city of Cochabamba. The arrival of the pack train with its party of "Norte Americanos" which, after six months in the field with limited impedimenta, was a pretty rough looking crowd, created somewhat of a sensation in the plaza. It was with great difficulty, later, that the Faculty of the University of Cochabamba could be convinced that such a band could really be "científicos" from a great university. A stage trip to Oruro and La Paz and a voyage across Lake Titicaca brought this first journey to a close. Hastings and I shortly afterward returned to the United States, leaving Drs. Farabee and Horr to continue the work of the expedition. The sudden and accidental death of Hastings not long after his arrival home was a great shock to all of us, who will remember him with affection as a good comrade and true friend.

The experience gained in the first journey was most helpful in planning the second, during which the party, starting from Cuzco, descended the Urubamba River, past the ancient fortress Ollantaytambo, the scene of the defeat of Hernando Pizarro by the Inca, Manco Capac, to Cahuide near where the river is joined by the Paucartambo. Here the expedition spent three months in camp with the Macheyenga Indians, returning to Cuzco, via the Yanatile River, Lara, and the ancient sun temple at Pisac.

The third journey was the longest and in many ways the most important. The Peruvian Government, which, at this time, was



Members of the Expedition in camp on the Tambopata River; seated, left to right, Dr. Farnbee, Dr. Harr, Mr. de Milhou, Mr. Hastings

interested in the extension of the railroad at Cerro de Pasco to some navigable point upon the Ucayali River, invited the members of the expedition to accompany the party of engineers engaged in making a preliminary location and survey. This invitation was particularly attractive, because it was anticipated that the party would pass for more than a hundred and fifty miles through an unknown territory supposedly inhabited by savage tribes, where opportunity would offer itself to make observations and collections. As a matter of fact, these anticipations were only partly realized, as only a few tribes were encountered along the