

we are working in prescribed limits, we must, unwillingly on our part, refer the reader to the works of Lord Kingsborough, Maudsley, and Stephens for details on the subject.

Sufficient facts have been elicited from various sources to prove that Southern Mexico, (Yucatan in particular) Guatemala, British Honduras, Spanish Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and the Isthmus of Panama were once the cradles of a high order of civilization, but nothing more is known of the dynasties and kingdoms which flourished at that remote age than is told by the hieroglyphical inscriptions and the carvings found on the columns, monuments and temple walls of the ruined cities of the regions named.

We admit many of our statements seem extravagant, but they must be accepted until some future savant shall decipher these mysterious inscriptions nothing can be known of the history of those who carved them, but the belief is gradually gaining ground that the mystery that shrouds these monuments will yet be dispelled and that many authentic pages will be added to the past history of this continent, and probably in corroboration of all that is stated above.

But to retrace our steps to the Eastern coast of Quintana Roo. On the brink of a high broken precipitous cliff, commanding a magnificent ocean view, and a picturesque line of coast, with the Island of Cozumel in the distance, is to be found the grand old ruins of

TULOOM

that are in a strikingly good state of preservation, and to which, only one theory can be suggested, which is that as they are out of the beaten track of tourists, travellers, or so called students of archaeology, they have been saved from the vandal hand of man, which perhaps, all things considered, is more to be feared than the ravages wrought by time.