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South to Picturesque Wolpi, a Mesa Village of Hopi People, Arizona

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South to Picturesque Wolpi, a Mesa Village of Hopi People, Arizona, Lucius Marion Lampton, MD
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(82)-8186-South to picturesque Woipi, a mesa village of Hopi
Indians, Arizona.
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It is the vast Painted Desert of north eastern Arizona that you see stretching away to meet the sky in that far-off horizon line. This is some seventy miles north of the nearest station on the Santa Fe railroad. The rocky *mesa* on which you are standing rises out of the waste of sand like an island out of the sea — it is one of a little group of such dry islands, each occupied by a native Indian village more or less like this. You see, they are like the old citadels of Europe, occupying sites practically impregnable with any ordinary, primitive weapons of attack. These men lose something of their natural picturesqueness by reason of those commonplace clothes from the nearest trading-post, but they are descendants of the original Americans; their civilization was hoary with age when the very first Spanish explorers, pushing up here from Mexico, made acquaintance with it. Those two and three-story houses are of stone plastered with adobe (mud). The ladders you see projecting here and there provide means of reaching the entrances; you notice the lower stories very rarely show openings of any sort; those are usually dark and entered only by trap-doors from a floor above.

Householders and homemakers here in Wolpi have no easy lot, even though life is reduced to exceedingly simple terms. The corn and beans and pumpkins which constitute their food are all raised down there in the desert sand or in scattered gullies here and there near some scanty water-course. Firewood for cooking often has to be sought miles away where trees grow in some sheltered canyon. Water must be obtained by going to a well away down there in the desert and bringing it up here in home-made jars of coarse pottery. No wonder that rainclouds come to have the significance of divine visitants.

See: —

F. S. Dellenbaugh, *North Americans of Yesterday*.

George A. Dorsey, *Indians of the Southwest*.

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South to Picturesque Wolpi, Indian Reservation, Arizona.

Vue au sud de la pittoresque Wolpi concession indienne, Arizona.

Aussicht gegen Süden auf das malerische Wolpi Indianer Reservation, Arizona.

Vista hacia el Sur del pintoresco Wolpi, Concesión India, Arizona.

Söderut, till den pittoreska "Wolpi"-indianreservationen, Arizona.

Живописный Волпи съ юга, Индѣйскій резервъ, Аризона.