

**FACTS ABOUT  
WILLIAMSBURG  
AND VICINITY**

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Facts about Williamsburg and Vicinity by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**FACTS ABOUT  
WILLIAMSBURG  
AND VICINITY**



*Compendium of J. M. ...*

Facts

About

# Williamsburg

and

Vicinity.



DUKE OF GLOUCESTER STREET, COMING WEST.



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Published by the  
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- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
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| CARY P. ARMISTEAD.                      |                     |

**Extract from Minutes of Business Men's Association at a Meeting  
held January 29, 1900.**

*Resolved,* That the "FACTS ABOUT WILLIAMSBURG AND VICINITY," as amended, be referred to the Executive Committee and to the Bureau of

ERRATA.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

J. B. C. SPENCER,	JNO. S. CHARLES.
JNO. L. MERCER,	II. S. BIRD,
RO. L. SPENCER,	L. W. LANE, JR.,

H. N. PHILLIPS.

ON PAGE 47, LINE 9, instead of URGENT read ELEGENT. <sup>a</sup><sub>K</sub>

**To Whom It May Concern:**

In accordance with the foregoing instructions, the Bureau of Information of the Business Men's Association present the following **FACTS ABOUT WILLIAMSBURG AND VICINITY**. In the preparation of this paper it has been our purpose to state *facts* and facts **ONLY**, and the statements made herein can be vouched for. We trust that those into whose hands it may fall will read it with the full confidence that it was written for the sole purpose of setting forth accurately and truthfully the advantages of our city and section; and that it may be acted upon with the assurance that investigation will verify every assertion herein contained.

Respectfully,

BUREAU OF INFORMATION,  
*Of the Business Men's Association of Williamsburg, Va.*





DUKE OF GLOUCESTER STREET LOOKING EAST.

FACTS ABOUT  
**Williamsburg and Vicinity.**

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**THE CITY.**

**T**HE City of Williamsburg, Virginia, is situated on the historic peninsula between the James and the York Rivers, three miles from the former, and four from the latter. It is the oldest incorporated town in the State, and boasts of having received its charter from royal hands. It was known in early colonial days as Middle Plantations, and the first act of its incorporation was passed in 1632. The capital of the colony was moved from Jamestown here in 1699 on account of the superior healthfulness of this locality, and was in 1779 removed to Richmond in order to be more centrally located.

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The city is laid out in good old English fashion with wide and airy streets and spacious courts, and it still retains these characteristics, which at once make upon visitors a pleasing impression. The main street is known as Duke of Gloucester Street, one mile in length, and ninety feet wide, free from hills, with a gentle incline westward, and lined on either side with beautiful shade-trees of different varieties. This colonial boule-



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND RESIDENCE OF DR. CHARLES E. BISHOP.

vard has at one end the ancient and honorable College of William and Mary, and at the other the site of the colonial capitol, once "a noble, beautiful and commodious pile, built at the cost of Queen Anne," thus connecting the seat of learning with the seat of government.

All the streets of the city are laid out with mathematical precision, and are built up with houses, constructed both of wood and brick, the style of the architecture varying from the



THE OLD COURT-HOUSE—GUILT IN 1769.