

**NORFOLK, THE MARINE  
METROPOLIS OF VIRGINIA:  
AND THE SOUND AND RIVER  
CITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649124893

Norfolk, the marine metropolis of Virginia: and the sound and river cities of North Carolina by  
Geo. I. Nowitzky

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**GEO. I. NOWITZKY**

**NORFOLK, THE MARINE  
METROPOLIS OF VIRGINIA:  
AND THE SOUND AND RIVER  
CITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA**



NORFOLK;

THE

Marine Metropolis of Virginia,

AND THE

SOUND AND RIVER CITIES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

---

A NARRATIVE

BY

GEO. I. NOWITZKY.

THE LIBRARY  
OF CONGRESS

NORFOLK, VA., AND RALEIGH, N. C.:

PUBLISHED BY GEO. I. NOWITZKY.

1888.

THE NEW YORK  
LIBRARY

345  
ATTON  
YALE

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1887, by  
GEO. I. NOWITZKY,  
In the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, D. C.



YANELL INT  
BANDMO TO

PRINTED BY  
E. M. UZZELL,  
RALEIGH, N. C.

## PREFACE.

---

In writing this book I have endeavored to comply with the following rules:

**FIRST.** In describing places of interest and noted or public buildings, to write of them only as they exist. It is true that some buildings devoted to business, on account of striking architectural features, had to be described, and, as a consequence, are described; but I guarantee that none of the misleading puffery will be found in this little effort which, unfortunately, accompany many of the guides to other cities, and makes them a source of ridicule in place of desired information.

**SECOND.** In writing up historical events, to narrate them as they occurred, using only facts gleaned from indisputed authority.

**THIRD.** Not to permit the promise of reward, in the form of advertising patronage, to control or in any way interfere with my views or descriptions. This accounts for the absence of a number of advertisements which are usually loudest in other publications. No puffs were promised; in fact, it was stipulated that none must be expected.

And last, not to solicit any advertisements from the designers of any of the

### BUILDINGS DESCRIBED.

This is the reason that Norfolk's worthy representatives of a profession whose great service to mankind can be traced back further than medicine or the law are not to be found in the professional directory; and I can further solemnly assert that I am not

*acquainted with an architect in Norfolk, or have ever spoken to one, to my knowledge.* I make this statement to show that I was not prejudiced in favor of any of them; and, as a consequence, my descriptions are entirely impartial, my object being to draw a picture that the people of Norfolk could look upon and say: "This is a sketch of our city as seen by an impartial stranger"; and the stranger, after using it as a guide, takes it to his home as a souvenir, realizing that it is a description of Norfolk as it is.

Having thus given the rules which guided my descriptions, I respectfully call the attention of the reader to the following

#### EXPLANATIONS,

which bring this rather long preface to a conclusion:

Extensive travel in most of the lustrous combination of States and Territories which form our common country has taught me that the way to improve a city is not by favorably exaggerating the appearance of her architectural and other improvements, but by pointing out objectionable defects as well as gratifying effects. Experience, gained the same way, has also taught me that the majority of people, in reading descriptions of their cities, prefer flattery to facts. I write this because I fear that some of the citizens of Norfolk, upon a hasty perusal of this work, may think that I have been unnecessarily sarcastic at the expense of some of their buildings; but I am satisfied all this will be dispelled when they deliberate and realize that flattery blocks all roads to improvement, while an honest narration, even if it verges on sarcasm, acts as a spur, and often forces us on the direct road to an excellent point. Other buildings will have to be built, and the only way we can improve is by not shutting our eyes to glaring faults in existing structures.



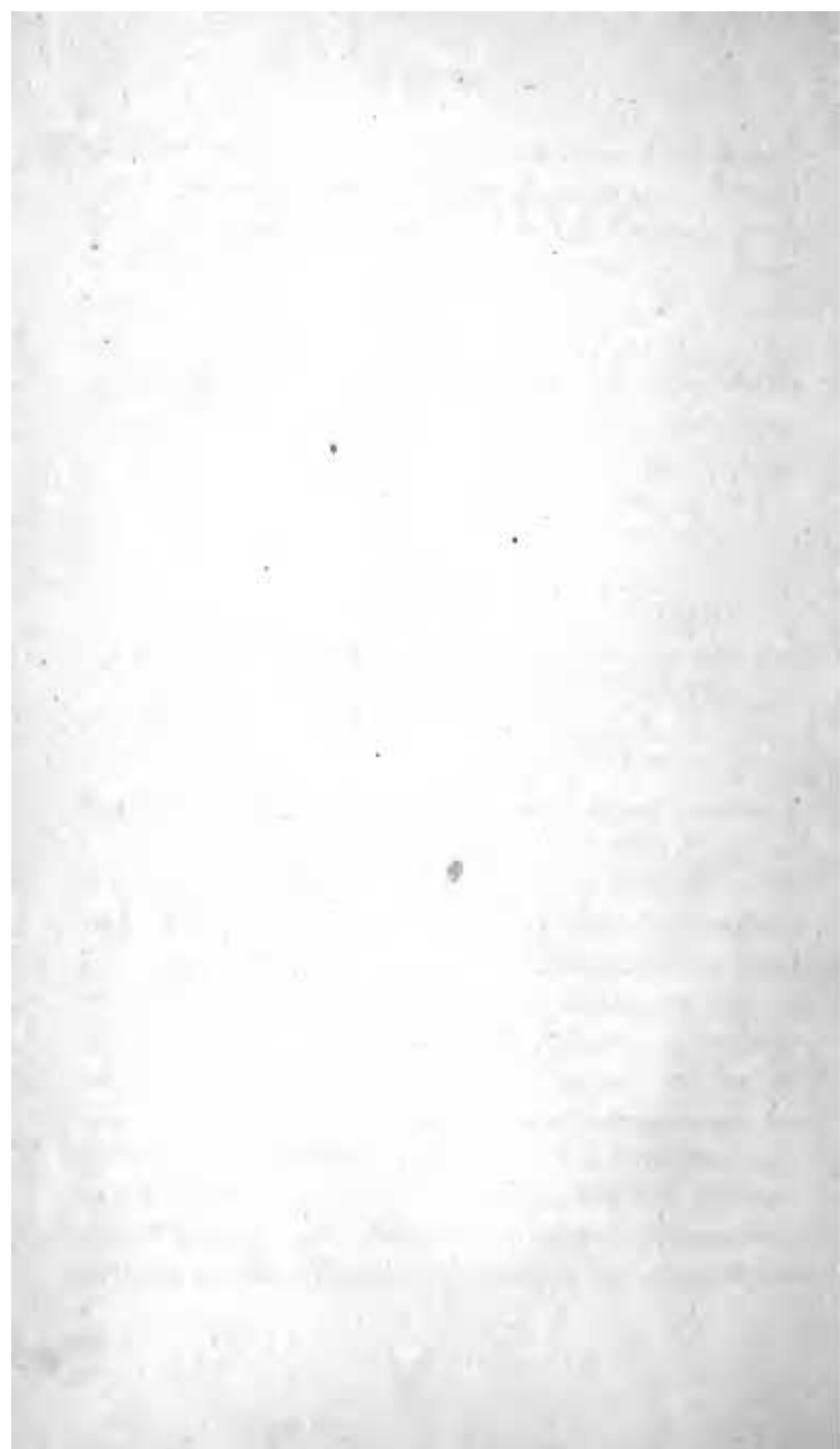
I can further say, that in all the vast territory which lies between the Canadian boundary and the Mexican line I have never found, in city, town or village, a community whose cordial greeting was more sincere and whose arms of honest hospitality have been wider open to me. For these reasons, I can conscientiously write that my pen has been guided by a mind entirely free from prejudice, and possessing only the kindest feelings towards Norfolk and her people. If it has displeased even the most fastidious, I hope they will realize—

That if I've sinned,  
I've sinned without design;  
To sin is innate in all,  
"To forgive is divine."

GEO. I. NOWITZKY.

NORFOLK, VA., Nov. 18, 1887.





# NORFOLK;

THE

## Marine Metropolis of Virginia.

---

### A NARRATIVE.

---

#### CHAPTER I.

WHICH SHOWS THE STRONG RELATIONSHIP EXISTING EVERY DAY SUNDAY EXCEPTED, BETWEEN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, AND SIX-TEN P. M.—DESCRIBES NORFOLK HARBOR, AND GIVES A PICTURE IN TYPE OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK AS SEEN FROM THE OPPOSITE SHORE.

It was six-ten P. M. in Portsmouth, Virginia, and all the good citizens of Portsmouth, Virginia, knew it. I say all unhesitatingly. The deaf and dumb knew it, for the train of the Seaboard road, bringing in the Tar-Heel mail, traverses the entire breadth of the city through its leading business avenue, High street, and as a consequence is so conspicuous that they could not help but see it. The blind also had no reasonable excuse for not knowing that it was six-ten P. M., for the movement was accompanied by such shrill whistles at every street crossing, and the ceaseless ringing of the enterprising locomotive bell, that no reasonable blind man could help but hear it; and as the few blind people that grope their