



Knickerbocker's History of New York (Paperback)

By Washington Irving

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. The fun of reading a parody is heightened by acquaintance with the material being burlesqued. Although Washington Irving confessed, in the Author s Apology added to the edition of 1848, that his idea had been to parody Samuel L. Mitchell s A Picture of New York (1807), a knowledge of Mitchell s book is not necessary to the enjoyment of Irving s work. The parody is only part of the humor of A History of New York, By Diedrich Knickerbocker, which was originally begun as a collaboration between Irving and his older brother, Peter, and had the original title A History of New York from the Beginning of the World to the End of the Dutch Dynasty. The work reveals the interest of its twenty-five-year-old author in history, customs, and etymology; the burlesquing of several literary styles-his notebook supplies the names of some of the authors parodied, names now largely forgotten-reveals Irving as a literary critic. Irving was in the process of finishing the book when his fiance, Matilda Hoffman, died suddenly. At first he was too stunned to...



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