

POTABLE POISON: VICTIM CLUE CARDS

Sonny Pflagher, 54, owner Genteel Lodging House

- Resided on Bayard Street with wife, one child
- He often bought meat from the Orange Street Butcher
- Accused of selling spoiled meat
- Wife and child contracted cholera
- Recovering

Baxter Pease, 56, priest

- Resided at the Transfiguration Catholic Church
- Roamed through the Five Points neighborhood as a missionary aiding needy residents
- Often stopped to visit children at the Anthony Street Orphanage
Accompanied children to Paradise Park on a hot July day-
They cooled off by dumping buckets of water on their heads.
- Died after an illness of 4 hours

Honara Moriarity, 30, wig maker

- Resided in Old Brewery Tenement with two daughters
- Made wigs from picking curled hair from city garbage bins and then sold to wig stores
- Her daughter would often dig through the garbage bins on Leonard Street searching for hair
- The entire family died of cholera

Thomas Shea, 57, shoemaker

- Resided on Mott Street at the intersection of Bayard with wife and four boys
- Because he lived on the top floor of the seven-story brick tenement (see picture A), he believed his family was safe from cholera
- Shea sold shoes to sailors and dock workers using cowhide from William Morgan's shop
- Family used water from the well on Mulberry and Cross Street
- Shea died but his wife and children survived

John Moses, 16, shoe shine

- Resided on Little Water Street with mother and four sisters
- Worked at Hanford Hotel on Grand Street outside of Five Points, where he wore a uniform, and was fed two daily meals as payment
- During July of 1832 when the number of guests was low, the hotel manager permitted Johnny to bathe in the newly installed ground floor wash-closet
- Two sisters and mother fell ill. Mother recovered
- John never got it

James Gall, 31, street cleaner

- Resided on Cross Street at the intersection of Mott Street with wife and three children
- Clean-up route was from the top of Orange Street to the bottom of Chatman Street
- His wife spent hours scrubbing his uniform to get it clean when he returned home
- Wife contracted cholera and recovered

Paddy McMartin, 15, ship worker

- Stays at Genteel Lodging House
- Occasionally slept on ships docked in port
- Two days before he became sick, he was unloading animals shipped from Europe to the Orange Street Butcher Shop.
Three animals died on the voyage.
- After his shift washed his shirt in the public well in Paradise Park
- Died of cholera

Euphemia Williams, 10, student

- Attended Mulberry Street School, Africa Free School #2, 135/137 Mulberry Street (see picture card)
- Resided at 68 Cross Street with her father Peter Williams, minister of St. Philips (African) Episcopal Church
The church is on Centre Street in Five Points
- St. Philips had its own water source for services
- Although a number of the children attending her school who lived on Mulberry died of cholera, Euphemia and her father survived

Edward Whalen, 43, laborer

- Resided on Mulberry Street with wife, at the intersection of Cross Street
- He was working on a contract job in Cow Bay Tenements
- Had to remove broken tub where residents would do laundry
- Both he and his wife contracted cholera
- Both died on the fifth day within a few hours of each other

Barbara Sullivan, 40, laundress

- Resided on lower Mott Street near Chatham Square with six children
- Widow
- Does the laundry from area residents, including the priests' vestments at Transfiguration Catholic Church
- She was therefore permitted to use the church's private well for washing, drinking and household needs
- Attacked with diarrhea and vomiting
- Recovering at church's Convalescent Hospital

Callagham McCarthy, 21, carpenter

- Resided at Cow Bay Tenement next to Orange Street Butcher
- Was quarreling with William Morgan and did not purchase his meat
- Was completing job building benches and structures for Paradise Park during June and July
- Died of cholera

William Morgan, 36, butcher

- Resided above his butcher shop on Orange Street
- Was suspected of using scavenging swine for his pork/bacon and sausage
- Often butchered animals behind shop
- Waste was poured in gutter on Orange Street
- Used water in Paradise Park for washing
- Wife and three children died of cholera

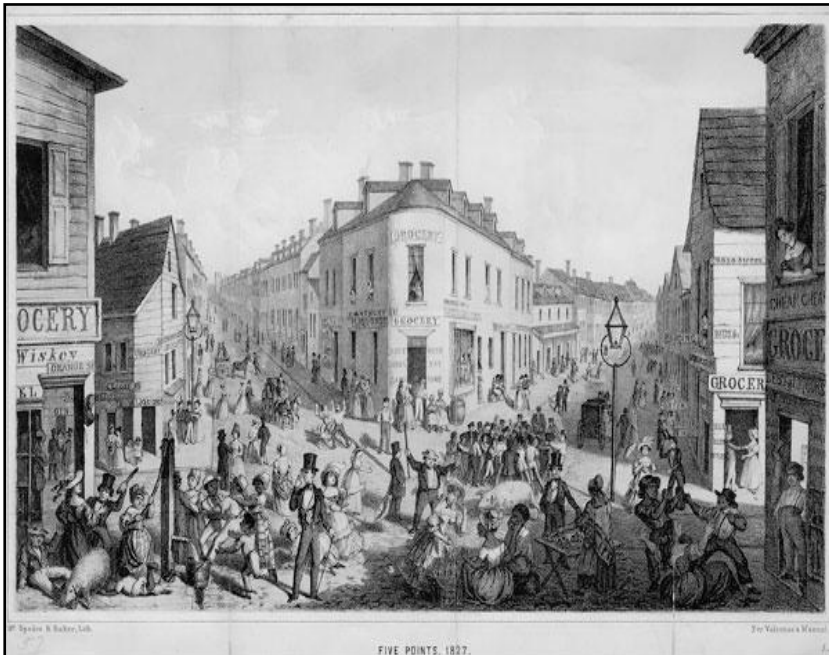
POTABLE POISON: PICTURE CARD



Picture A (left)

G.W. Pach, Photographer. The Robert N. Dennis Collection of Stereoscopic Views [image number, NYPG91-F179 046F], courtesy of The New York Public Library

Picture B (right)
"New-York African Free-School, No. 2.
Engraved from a drawing taken by
P. Reason, a pupil, aged 13 years."



Picture C (left)

"Five Points" by George Catlin, 1827
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