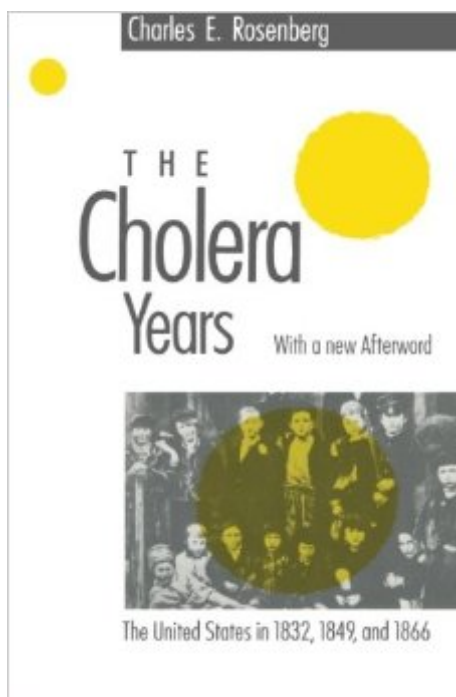


The book was found

The Cholera Years: The United States In 1832, 1849, And 1866



Synopsis

Cholera was the classic epidemic disease of the nineteenth century, as the plague had been for the fourteenth. Its defeat was a reflection not only of progress in medical knowledge but of enduring changes in American social thought. Rosenberg has focused his study on New York City, the most highly developed center of this new society. Carefully documented, full of descriptive detail, yet written with an urgent sense of the drama of the epidemic years, this narrative is as absorbing for general audiences as it is for the medical historian. In a new Afterword, Rosenberg discusses changes in historical method and concerns since the original publication of *The Cholera Years*. "A major work of interpretation of medical and social thought . . . this volume is also to be commended for its skillful, absorbing presentation of the background and the effects of this dread disease." "I.B. Cohen, *New York Times*" "The Cholera Years is a masterful analysis of the moral and social interest attached to epidemic disease, providing generally applicable insights into how the connections between social change, changes in knowledge and changes in technical practice may be conceived." "Steven Shapin, *Times Literary Supplement*" "In a way that is all too rarely done, Rosenberg has skillfully interwoven medical, social, and intellectual history to show how medicine and society interacted and changed during the 19th century. The history of medicine here takes its rightful place in the tapestry of human history." "John B. Blake, *Science*

Book Information

Paperback: 265 pages

Publisher: University of Chicago Press; 2nd edition (July 15, 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226726770

ISBN-13: 978-0226726779

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #74,874 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Textbooks >](#)

[Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Special Topics > History](#) #41 in [Books > Textbooks >](#)

[Medicine & Health Sciences > Research > Epidemiology](#) #61 in [Books > Medical Books >](#)

[Administration & Medicine Economics > Public Health > Epidemiology](#)

Customer Reviews

In the Republic era of America, people were assaulted daily by their own visions of success, failure,

the expectations and weaknesses of a still developing concept of democracy, poverty, and illness. One such illness, Cholera, infected America three times during this period: 1832, 1849, and 1866. In America, "Cholera represented a constant and randomly reoccurring stimulus against which the varying reactions and systems of Americans could be judged", and it caused gradual changes in social attitudes, government, religious thought, and medicine as people tried to understand and cope with the disease. Historians have recently given little attention to defining and then writing about the social changes brought about by cholera, both as a process and its final result. It is part of history's recent interest in social aspects such as family and school, which medicine is a part of because the two are linked by every day life concerns. The Cholera Years is an interesting and easy to read book. One of its strengths lies in its readability and in how it engages the reader through primary sources. Historical books that tell stories and relate true life accounts and words are more interesting than those that simply move from one fact to the next. Also, Rosenberg is very organized in his presentation of information. The sections, chopped up by cholera year, follow the same patterns as far as how information is addressed. As a result, though we are reading from one year to the next, the progressions of society and thought are easy to follow and connect together. It actually made more sense this way than if Rosenberg had approached the book topically, which would have jumped around and only confused. Unfortunately, as a weakness, Rosenberg is very repetitive.

"The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866," by Charles E. Rosenberg, University of Chicago Press, 1987. This 265-page paperback tells the story of cholera, one of the most deadly diseases of the nineteenth century. Rosenberg's story covers the three major epidemics through the eyes of New York city newspapers. The symptoms of cholera are characteristic. The patient experiences a sudden onset of violent vomiting, severe cramps, and diarrhea. Patients become dehydrated and often are pale and cold. Many die rapidly often within 24-hrs. The disease is thought to have originated in India. Hence, the name Asian cholera. The epidemics traveled slowly, usually with considerable forewarning. Quarantine was the usual means to delay its spread, but this method usually failed. Smallpox, the scourge of the eighteenth century had been conquered with vaccination, but cholera posed frightening new challenges. Germ theory would arrive only in the 1850s, and be accepted only in the 1890s. Medical practice was primitive. Bleeding was still a common treatment. Diseases were poorly understood. Hospitals were considered death wards for the poor; nursing an unclean profession. The cause of cholera was widely debated. Even the idea the disease was contagious was uncertain. Were the victims both

exposed to the same cause, or did one catch the disease from the other? The poor living in the slums of the cities were often the victims. This was not a disease of the upper classes, so much so that if one fell to the disease, the cause was "previous indiscretions." Not surprisingly in 1849 in New York, most victims were Irish and Catholic. Slum dwellers often lacked clean drinking water and relied on privies rather than sewers.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866 Ecuador and the United States: Useful Strangers (United States and the Americas) (United States and the Americas) (The United States and the Americas) Scott 1998 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps: Confederate States, Canal Zone, Danish West Indies Guam, Hawaii, United Nations : United ... Catalogue of United States Stamps) Obsolete Paper Money: Issued by Banks in the United States 1782-1866: a Study and Appreciation for the Numismatist and Historian Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers 2013: Confederate States-Canal Zone-Danish West Indies-Guam-Hawaii-United Nations: United ... Postage Stamp Catalogue: U.S. Specialized) Paraguay and the United States: Distant Allies (The United States and the Americas) War Plan Red: The United States' Secret Plan to Invade Canada and Canada's Secret Plan to Invade the United States A Guide Book of United States Paper Money 2nd Ed. (Guide Book of United States Paper Money: Complete Source) Illustrated catalogue of United States Cartridge Company's collection of firearms : the most complete collection in the United States Scott 2017 Specialized United States Postage Stamp Catalogue (Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps) Handbook of United States Coins 2017: The Official Blue Book, Paperback Edition (Handbook of United States Coins (Paper)) Official ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins (Official American Numismatic Association Grading Standards for United States Coins) A Guide Book of United States Coins 2015: The Official Red Book Spiral (Official Red Book: A Guide Book of United States Coins (Spiral)) American History: The People & Events that Changed American History (People's History, American, United States of America, American Revolution, Patriot, United States History Book 1) Grand Expectations: The United States, 1945-1974 (Oxford History of the United States) The Internal Enemy: Slavery and War in Virginia, 1772-1832 New Year in Cuba: Mary Gardner Lowell's Travel Diary, 1831-1832 (New England Women's Diaries Series) Image and Memory: Photography from Latin America, 1866-1994 (English and Spanish Edition) The Great Bahamas Hurricane of 1866: The Story of One of the Greatest and Deadliest Hurricanes to Ever Impact the Bahamas Pandemic: Tracking Contagions, from Cholera to Ebola and Beyond

[Dmca](#)