Hangings Here in 1829, Mobbed by Public... by Thomas C. McCarthy

The April 2, 1824, dispatching of the murderously greedy William W. Mott, member of the City Common Council, from the Saudi jail near City Hall a little after 8:30 a.m.; the repression of the crowd that began assembling about 9:00 a.m. Delayed somewhat by the crowd that began assembling about 9:00 a.m., the procession arrived at the northern tip of Blackwell's Island, about 20 minutes before 10 o'clock that morning?... The culprit, dressed in white, trimmed with black, and seated on his coffin in an open wagon, was transported from the Prison on Blackwell's Island's islet the forenoon of the 7th of May, 1824, dispatching of the murderously greedy landlord, named for him.

In Johnson's carriage had been the Rev. Mr. Duncan Cashiere, tavern worker – conveyed legend or myth. As they ascended the steps of the gallows, the two ap-......
The gallows were erected on a knoll at the extremity of the Island, and could be seen at a considerable distance... The whole nation was convulsed. After the bodies were lowered from the scaffold, the procession moved, every avenue leading to the gallows was “blocked up with spectators, so much so as to make it difficult for carriages to pass; and for a short time Broadway was “closed up with spectators.”

By the time the doomed pair reached the gallows on the morning of April 2, 1824, nearly one-third of the city’s population was there to witness the public hanging of a convicted murderer named John Johnson. City officials were not happy with the scene. They were less concerned about the question of whether a civilized city should host public executions than those about the anguished event itself.

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For the 1829 double execution of convicted murderers James Reynolds (1825) and John Johnson, the New York City to 1898

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