

Forum 3

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Add... **Reconstruction Cartoons**

by Joe Escobar - Friday, February 20, 2015, 9:48 PM

This forum thread is for Reconstruction Cartoons posts and replies.

After studying the required materials, address the various questions. For purposes of encouraging discussion, you may decide to separate your responses into SEPARATE posts. To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post. To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post, and include the cartoon number. Do NOT simply leave it RE: Reconstruction Cartoons

Sum of ratings: -

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Re: Reconstruction Cartoons**

by Harold Butler - Saturday, February 21, 2015, 11:21 AM

From cartoon #1 I feel this is how some people felt about negroes that started to gain seats on important issues dealing with the country. Like for example fredrick Douglass men with opinions.. This is racism to me from the cartoons point of view

Sum of ratings:1 (1) [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Cartoon #2: Democratic Platform**

by Delaney Crook - Sunday, February 22, 2015, 11:35 AM

After analyzing cartoon number two, I have come to the assumption that this cartoon is of three Democrats, trying to show their stance for the Reconstruction Act. At the top of the cartoon it is states "This is a White Man's Government" and at the bottom in writing it claims that the Reconstruction Act is unconstitutional, and that this is the Democratic Platform for the election. In the cartoon the artist had drawn three Democrats standing on top of, and stepping on an African-American man. The African-American man looks defeated, and what seem to be holding an American flag to symbolize freedom, perhaps. The three Democrats on the other hand, are looking successful and determined by holding up items that symbolize a vote against the Reconstruction Act. In the background there seems to be a blur of violence, maybe, to portray the violence that took place during this time period. The artist of this cartoon was obviously against the Reconstruction Act and was trying to prove a point that the Democrats were determined to do whatever it took to ensure the Act was not successful.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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"This is a white man's government." Cartoon #2

by [Colt Eubank](#) - Sunday, February 22, 2015, 7:35 PM

After looking over this cartoon a couple of times there are a couple of things i noticed. First was the pocket book in the character on the rights hand that says, "Capital for votes," with money sticking out of it. I believe this refers to the corruption of officials paying people to vote a certain way. Next I noticed the African American man getting trampled by the three men and reaching for the ballot box. I think that cartoonist is trying to say that the African Americans that fought in the war had earned the right to vote. I then saw the ape like man on the left. After seeing the label on his hat that said 5 points there is no doubt in my mind that this is supposed to be an Irish American. I believe this cartoon is about the democratic party being corrupt and overall just plain wrong. I think the cartoonist is a republican just expressing his overall distaste for democratic party and the Civil War.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Cartoon #4a/4b- "Pardon and Franchise"

by [Jacob Westbrook](#) - Sunday, February 22, 2015, 7:59 PM

The main character in the cartoon is a woman called "Columbia," who one can probably assume represents America. She seems to be addressing a group of southerners in panel 4a, who are laying down their swords and Confederate flag and apparently asking to be readmitted and forgiven/pardoned. In the next panel, she is speaking of a black soldier who has lost a leg in battle. I am assuming that she's speaking about the South's attitude toward the admittance of slaves as freedmen, asking that if the southerners can be trusted to be taken in, why not the blacks who have sacrificed/suffered just as much?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Blacks will never be in power! Accoring to cartoon #2!

by [Cody Garrison](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 9:51 AM

While looking at this cartoon I see many things that Thomas Nast is trying to get across about the Democrats depicted in this cartoon. One on the left is a "Irish" man due to the facial features and what looks like a booze bottle in his pocket. The middle individual is holding a knife that says "The Lost Cause" and a whip in his back pocket like he is going to stab the truth into the black guy he is standing on. Next is the guy on the left that is holding a pocket book with money in it or something maybe votes? I feel this may be showing his power to change things that need to happen for the democrats to succeed. Last the African-American underneath the 3 democrats, is holding on to the American flag, reaching for which I think is a ballot box, with the look of horror maybe depicting hes closeness to freedom? I see a soldier cap in front of him so I'm assuming he was a union soldier. When you look in the back you can see a black individual hanging from the lamp post and something written on the building that is burning. What I think is going on here is Thomas Nast is showing that the Democrats are whiling to go to any lengths to prove that the reconstruction act is not constitutional and they are going to fight to prove that whether its morally incorrect or not.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Blacks will never be in power! Accoring to cartoon #2!

by [Delaney Crook](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 10:25 AM

After analyzing this cartoon I came to many of the same conclusions about the cartoonist and the cartoon. The one aspect that I did not recognize that you mentioned was the African-American man reaching for the ballot box. I believe this is an essential

aspect to the cartoon that I missed. The fact that he is reaching for a ballot box, and is close in distance, but not quite there symbolizes how close African-Americans really were to freedom, and voting rights, but also how the Democrats did anything and everything in their power to stop them. This cartoon definitely portrays how the Democrats felt about the reconstruction act, and how they fought to great lengths to stop it.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon #4 a & b

by [Adam Graves](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 10:30 AM

It seems in the carton 4a you have who looks like lady Liberty who has a look of concern on how to deal with these confederates that are at her feet looking as if they're pleading for forgiveness or some sort of light hand of justice for their acts of what some believed to be treason, and seeking that their reuniting with the Union will come with a generous pardon that won't stripe them of their rights and land.

In 4b in seems again lady liberty is saying to the same group of confederates here is a man who fought for exactly what you guys want back, and yet we can't give him the same. A slave who fought and lost a leg for the cause and were not going to give him the same civil equality as you the southern white men.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons 4B

by [Brody Wasson](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:18 AM

In cartoon 4B it depicts a black man and a white woman. At first it looked like the woman was lady liberty trying to speak on behalf of the black man. But then seeing the caption it now looks like a superior white woman auctioning off the black man to what could be if the drawing was extended a crowd of whites

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons #2

by [Brody Wasson](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:22 AM

in cartoon #2 the cartoonist depicts three white men that are pinning a black boy to the ground. From what I saw the three white men all from their actions from the south. They all carry something that they are fighting for and have won. This speaks to me that the south has won and the blacks have been beaten.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons 4A

by [Brody Wasson](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:27 AM

This cartoon relays a lot about the cartoonist. The woman sitting in the chair and what looks like she might be occupying the presidency or she seems to be representing lady liberty, with the white southerners at her feet begging and offering objects to her for forgiveness

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons 4A

by [Jacob Westbrook](#) - Thursday, February 26, 2015, 6:58 PM

I'm not sure that the objects are being "offered" to her so much as they are being "laid down", as they are clearly a Confederate flag and sword. It seems that through their actions, they are saying that they're ready to stop fighting as the CSA and rejoin the Union.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Reconstruction Cartoons: 1, 4a, and 4b

by [Jacob Brown](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 3:41 PM

Jacob A. Brown

History 202

Joe Escobar

Forum #3

Andrew Johnson's reconstruction political cartoons

From these 5 cartoons, the naked eye can tell that people did not favor Johnson's altered idea of Lincoln's reconstruction. Back then, according to these cartoons, they showed reconstruction as a weak, wussy move by the north. Kissing the feet of the blacks and treating them as kings, turning them from slaves into royalty, as portrayed in cartoon 4b. Also, this attack on the North was one of the only ways the South could keep their pride after the horrendous defeat they suffered in the Civil War. The south was crushed and basically under marshal law by the North until they approved of the 14th amendment. So one the best ways they saw to lash out was through political cartoons. No matter how gracious the North was to them (because the North could've punished the South a lot more than they did), they still needed some form of pride to stand on. And so they expressed their hate for Andrew Johnson, and this "ridiculous" reconstruction through cartoons.

The first reason why the South kept this attack on the North, was the fear of blacks taking their position in Congress. As the first cartoon shows, you see Jefferson Davis supposedly walking away in defeat, as his blacks are being accepted into leadership positions. With the title "Time Works Wonders", it's obviously a jab at the North. They're giving blacks new jobs, and putting southerners out of work, and it's terrifying the South. Jefferson, wearing very interesting clothes, looks weak, defeated, and even homeless in this cartoon.

Another fear of the South's was the newly found authority and pride the Northerners had over the South. In cartoon 4a, you see a bored northern woman of royalty (I assume), who is being schmoozed, and kissed up too by everyone there. I venture to guess the majority of the politicians in there are Southerners, who will do anything to impress the North. Because if they don't they'll whipped into shape by them again. It's a basic fear that much of the South had at that time, I'm sure. They had broken land, ruled by military until agreement for peace. It was in many ways, a light ruling of North over the South for a good period of time. So this cartoon, like many other political cartoons, portray the worst case scenario of certain situations. Obviously the North would never rule over the South, but a few laws they passed, and the martial law (back in that time) made it seem like they were going too.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Cartoon #2

by [Kaelen Byrum](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 8:52 PM

In the second cartoon "this is a white mans government", three men are depicted standing on top of a black man. We can assume that is a freed slave who fought in the Union Army and the men on top of him is a white land owning southerner, an Irish immigrant, and an important government official. The knife that the man in the center is holding says "A lost cause", representing the lose in the war the south has just received and the reformation it is undergoing. The Irish immigrant is holding a club that says "A vote" symbolizing that even he is above the black man in society. We get a clear sense that these three men are part of the democratic party.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons: 1, 4a, and 4b

by [Jacob Westbrook](#) - Thursday, February 26, 2015, 7:02 PM

This is definitely an interesting way to look at cartoon 4, but I don't think the woman is supposed to be a "bored Northern woman Being schmoozed", since she is named "Columbia" and has obvious American symbolism around her. I think she is supposed to be representative of either Washington DC or America as a whole. I do like your analogy of the Northerners sort of "ruling" over the South; it certainly must have felt that way to the Southern states trying to rejoin the Union.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons: 1, 4a, and 4b

by [Courtney Tullock](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 9:38 PM

I don't think the woman is royalty because there was no such thing in America. I agree with the majority of our peers who say she most likely represents Lady Liberty. It seems to me that in the first picture they are begging her forgiveness with oaths of loyalty but her face expresses her disbelief in their sincerity. Cartoon 4b emphasizes this by her attention to the black union soldier as if she is saying they should be begging for his pardon. She knows they wouldn't. I think this cartoon was from a radical republican's point of view, he probably wanted people to be cautious of words and pay closer attention to actions.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Cartoon #2 White Man's Government

by [Courtney Tullock](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 9:18 PM

An Irish man from the north, an ex-confederate and Johnson is in cahoots to keep civil liberties out of reach of the newly freed blacks.

I think the three men represent the Democratic Party that disliked the idea of Reconstruction, as the book and the caption says, they found the reconstruction acts unconstitutional.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Interpretation of image 2

by [Jose Camarillo](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 10:38 PM

Image two shows all the forces that came together to go against African Americans even though some fought for those rights, as the African American in the picture looks to be in a Union uniform. Keeping them away from newly gained rights like voting. The 3 men are suppose to represent different parts of the Southern Democratic party, and the parties opposition to the Reconstruction Acts. The guy on the left depicts an Irish man, commonly drawn more ape like, he has a bottle in his pocket because they were seen as

alcoholics. The center person is a ex-confederate soldier holding a knife saying "The lost cause", and pointing downward as if having intent to stab the African American being trampled. The person on right is someone in political office holding votes.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Cartoon 4a and 4b Pardons

by [Haley Anderson](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:01 PM

I found this cartoon to be very interesting. In the first picture of the cartoon it seems to be that the woman is a representation of the Union and their victory; all of the men around the woman on the throne are confederates because on the flag on the ground it says CSA which stands for the confederate army. The men are also holding pardon newspapers, which is showing that these soldiers are trying to be pardoned by the victorious Union. At the bottom of the page it says, "Shall I pardon this man" (referring to the white confederates begging for pardon" and at the bottom of the other page is "and not this man?"(referring to a black man who only has one leg and obviously fought in the war). This cartoon is referring to the prejudice by the Union against pardoning black confederates vs. white confederates and how the Union really should be on the side of making them both equal.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoon 4a and 4b Pardons

by [Cody Garrison](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:40 PM

I honestly think this was sad. The prejudice that surrounded black men and women in the this time period was so blunt and obvious. The pardon's were only given to white confederates even though they didn't work for it was to try and gain control. It was only designed to kick black confederates between the legs and pretty much say they are less then and will never have rights. The white confederates should have stood up for blacks but that was a long shot because they were to chicken s***.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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This is a White man's government #2

by [Natasha Vanderwall](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:35 PM

After really examining this cartoon I believe that it is showing the democratic party in an immigrant, ex-confederate soldier, and a Northern well off white man. These men are standing on who I believe is a black union soldier. Starting with the black union soldier, he's holding the American flag and reaching out to a box. So I would imagine that he's trying to put in his ballot. Now on to the wealthy man, he's dressed in a really nice suit meaning he's well off and after zooming in a ton you can see that he has money in his left hand and it says votes. From that alone you can tell that the cartoon was from a republican view because they use to claim that the democrats bought votes. The middle man, in what i'm guessing is a confederate soldier uniform because of his belt buckle CSA is hold a dagger that says "The lost cause". He's holding like he's going to stab it into the union soldier. The last man that is drawn with ape-like features is an Irishman because of the ape-like association, cross on his hat, what looks like a liquor bottle in his pocket and poorly dressed. In the background theres a house on fire, but i'm not sure what its suppose to represent. Also in the background there is a sign that looks like it says orphan asylum and a man hanging. Also the middle man has a whip like thing in his back pocket saying he supports slavery and that the black man is below him.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: This is a White man's government #2

by [Courtney Tullock](#) - Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 7:40 PM



The house on fire could represent the school's that the KKK burned down in protest of the reconstruction. The book says on page 597, "scores of black schools, perceived as a particular threat to white supremacy, went up in flames." It would make sense to me because this cartoon is all about white supremacy and how the Democrats wanted to keep black people ignorant and out of the political agenda.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: This is a White man's government #2

by [Natasha Vanderwall](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 9:56 PM

Thank you for pointing that out to me. I don't know why I over looked that. As we talked in class the man in the middle was the leader of the KKK at the time so makes complete sense now.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Reconstruction Cartoon 1: Changes

by [Montana Baxter](#) - Monday, February 23, 2015, 11:55 PM

This "Time Works Wonders" cartoon shows the newly appointed Senator Revels sitting in Jefferson Davis' old desk. At this time he is the first black man to have a seat in congress, so he is being welcomed by Charles Sumner and 3 other Republican Senators. You can also see the large amount of people watching from above. Revels has a smile on his face because he is happy to be making progress for blacks in America, and he sees the irony in taking the seat in congress from a previous slave owner. Another thing I noticed is the books stacked against his desk and paper in front of him. These symbolize the education and information that black were previously not given. You can clearly see Jefferson Davis walking away with shame and disgust that Senator Revels is being welcomed and taking jobs away from white men which was a big fear from many in the south during this reconstruction period.

Sum of ratings: 3 (1)

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Reconstruction Cartoon #2

by [Jenefer Heredia](#) - Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 3:54 AM

The Reconstruction period brought upon the introduction of the 14th Amendment; protection of the voting rights of all natural born and naturalized citizens of the United States.. this included former slaves. How this new amendment would be carried out would be the challenge, especially in the south where a majority of the southerners felt not only defeat but the embarrassment from the devastating loss of the Civil War.

Cartoon #2 shows a perspective of the tension that existed during this time and that was mainly prominent in the southern states. The background of this cartoon shows a town in flames, a school is being burned and a lynched individual most likely an African-American. These clues lead me to believe that this particular setting is in the south as the KKK were notorious for burning down schools for black children and lynching African-Americans. The man in the middle also tells us this scene maybe taking place in the South because the acronym etched into his belt stands for: the Confederate States of America. The ape-like man on the left (common racial caricature for Irish immigrants during this period) represented the Irish immigrant working class. On the right I would assume is a politician in the Democratic party, possibly an ex-confederate soldier, seeing that he is joining the agenda of the other two men in squashing the black race as well as their vote under their feet.

The boots of these three white men has pinned down a black man onto his stomach while he is clenching onto the American flag that has also fallen with him. Despite the pressure

and force being exerted onto his back, the African American is still reaching out for the ballot box, desperate, to include his vote.

These three white men represent, what I believe, are the "3 corners" that prevented the black man to exercise their new right to vote.

The Democrat is the political corner, implementing obstructions that would/could be supported by law.

The CSA supporter is the prideful south and the history of slavery in their particular states may drive its white citizens to seek out African Americans and use force to stop their vote to prevent black republicans in working in their state office.

The Irish immigrant represents the labor workforce in the North, many riots and boycotts prevented blacks from entering the workplace where white immigrants were already present.

The caption "This is a white mans government" further validates my thoughts on the feelings a African American citizen could have strongly experienced of not being able to rely on a government that carries out its laws and the intense social pressures that came along with it.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Cartoon #2

by [Courtney Tullock](#) - Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 7:31 PM

"Hoping to put together a majority consisting of the South plush New York...the Democrats adopted a militant platform denouncing the Reconstruction acts as "a flagrant usurpation of power...unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void."(592)

Given this cartoon was published in 1868 which was just around election time I have concluded that the man on the right is Horatio Seymour, the Democrats nominee for president. The man on the left is an Irish immigrant from the North, and the man in the middle is clearly an ex-confederate from the South.

Most Northerners were not interested in fighting for blacks to be enfranchised, they just wanted the Union to be restored. "Racism was still strong in the North, where most states denied the right to vote to the few blacks living within their borders."(587)

Southerners viewed the war as a lost cause and instead turned their attention back to politics to win their way. Democrats did everything they could to block the Reconstruction. "The most potent weapon was violence."(597)

I think this cartoon was a democratic promise that if Horatio Seymour were to be elected as president then the ballot box would never be in reach for black people.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Cartoon #2

by [Natasha Vanderwall](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 10:37 PM

Great explanation of this cartoon and references. I read over chapter 17 again and figured out the name of the middle man is Nathan Bedford Forrest who held one of the highest positions in the KKK and was an ex-confederate General. (p. 592)

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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"Time Works Wonders" Cartoon #1:

by [Delaney Crook](#) - Thursday, February 26, 2015, 12:53 PM

After listening to the lecture today in class and understanding the 15th Amendment to the Constitution it helped me to understand the significance of cartoon number one. This cartoon depicts an African-American man being elected to Congress after the 15th

Amendment granted suffrage for African-Americans. It also shows the African-American man taking the place of Jefferson Davis in Congress. The quote at the bottom has great significance in that it says "Time works wonders". This claims that it was only the matter of time that blacks would be granted the right to vote, and would then be able to retaliate, in a sense, and take over the place of the man who had discriminated against them so greatly.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: "Time Works Wonders" Cartoon #1:

by [Jenefer Heredia](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:57 PM

I definitely believe the quote really adds to the significance of this cartoon. I really like that you mentioned the 15th amendment and how political participation would lead to possibilities as seen in this particular cartoon. I see this as an inspirational scene and especially in our "time" with President Obama in office this cartoon has become a reality. However, I do think that in that period this picture (for a great majority) would've been highly controversial and ignite peoples passions of their ideals from all parts of the racial and radical spectrum.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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The snake charmer #3

by [Adam Graves](#) - Thursday, February 26, 2015, 2:49 PM

There is a lot going on in carton 3, and it's probably got more meaning then I'll be able to touch on in this post with my knowledge. But I do think Nast did a good job portraying the aftermath of Andrew Johnson's pardons to the "rebels" of the south. The depictions in both the upper corners showing the freedman trying to stand up for their civil liberties. Johnson in sense showing how he betrayed the slaves who fought in the war, and in the cartoon with his hand on the union solider that has discharge papers in his hand with a look of anger as almost wondering what he fought for. Lastly the Johnson playing his snake charming flute, which in sense seems like his reconstruction instrument by appealing to the south and letting them enforce how they deal with freedman by letting them dictate Black Codes.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Cartoon 4a/b about suffrage?

by [Jacob Westbrook](#) - Thursday, February 26, 2015, 6:50 PM

I've been thinking about the subtitle of "Franchise" on 4b, and I just recently realized that the cartoon might be about more than just general forgiveness towards the South, but more specifically about the right to vote. It's possible that this is referring to the possible disenfranchising of top ranking Confederate officers & the 15th amendment, and it is a response to those upset by it. Essentially, it's saying that the people who tried to tear the country apart think they still have more of a right to vote than blacks who fought sometimes at great loss for the Union. I don't know if that's specifically what this is about, but it's a possible interpretation.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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And not this man?

by [Kaelen Byrum](#) - Friday, February 27, 2015, 10:16 AM

We see a black solider who most likely a former slave and fought for the Union army of the north. He is shown on crutches and has lost a leg in the war. Even though blacks served in the war side by side with white men, they were still not treated as citizens after they returned. It was not until a little while later that blacks earned their right to be

considered citizens. I see the woman to the right of the black soldier almost as a "Lady Liberty" type figure. She has her hand placed on the man's shoulder and is pointing to him. She is making a reference to the fact that he fought in the war with whites, and even lost a leg for his efforts, but is still not treated with the equality of a white.

From this, I would assume that the artist was for the rights and citizenship of blacks, and supported the blacks' efforts of fighting in the war.

Sum of ratings: 2 (1)

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Re: And not this man?

by [Jenefer Heredia](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 12:25 PM

Really awesome observation! I completely agree with your post.. I also believe the woman figure is a representation of Lady Liberty. In this picture I interpret Liberty to sympathize with the black Union soldier and trying to persuade others to grant him basic human rights.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons #1

by [Brody Wasson](#) - Friday, February 27, 2015, 3:29 PM

After Thursday's class this cartoon meant more than just reading and looking at it. It depicts Senator Revels sitting in Jefferson Davis' old desk, at this time he is the first black man to have a seat in congress, so he is being welcomed by Charles Sumner and 3 other Republicans. Looking at the top part of the picture it shows angry looking men. I can only assume that those are angry southerners that don't want blacks in congress. It makes me think that the south was being kept out of congress that's why they are all up high and not being able to say or comment on anything.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons #1

by [Cody Garrison](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:34 PM

Now after Thursday's lecture I honestly think this cartoon is comical. Knowing now that the coward in the robe is Andrew Johnson makes this cartoon priceless. Thomas Nast is pretty much saying screw you Southerners, we will treat everyone as someone. It is a slam at Andrew Johnson having power redirected out of his hands and into his nemesis's hands.

Sum of ratings: (1)

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"This is a white man's government"

by [Kaelen Byrum](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 1:52 PM

From class on Thursday, I was enlightened with a better understanding of this editorial cartoon. In the center we now know that man is Nathan Bedford Forrest, one of the original organizers of the Ku Klux Klan. He wears confederate uniforms, so we know he is from the south and is anti-black. We learn that the man on the right is August Belmont, a Jewish financier who is holding a large sum of money, symbolizing power and wealth. The black man is a Union soldier and is holding an American flag and is reaching towards a ballot box. This symbolizes the blacks' right to vote.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Cartoon #3

by [Kaelen Byrum](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:31 PM



It is very clear in the cartoon that President Johnson's idea of reformation, which was taken over by Johnson after Lincoln's death, was not favored. This was specifically demonstrated by the southerners and their viewpoint.

One of the first things we notice is on the two sides of the page are the two riots and massacres of the blacks in Memphis and New Orleans. With these massacres the hatred desire to destroy the idea of reconstruction in the south really become apparent. At the very top the words "Southern right" "what they were" is surrounding a picture of white southern men whipping and auctioning off black slaves. This just refers to how it was and obviously how they think it still should be.

The main focus of this cartoon is the large picture of President Johnson standing next to a wounded black Union soldier. President Johnson is dressed in odd looking clothing, almost like a jester, maybe to portray him as a fool and cowardly. The black man to his right wears Union uniforms and has the letters US on his hat and belt. The black soldier symbolizes the United States and symbolizes the blacks that fought for the Union are the backbone and protector. This is why it seems the Johnson is hiding behind him.

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Clarity on image 2

by [Jose Camarillo](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:35 PM

On Thursday we were given some more information on the editorial cartoons. My original thoughts weren't very off from what Mr. Escobar said. Mr. Escobar did give more clarity on the cartoons. He explained how the Irish man was an expression for nativism. The man in the center represents Nathan Bedford Forrest, one of the founders of the first KKK, he is dressed in a Confederate uniform holding a dagger that says "The Lost Cause." The last person is August Belmont, who was a financier, and we can see he is holding what appears to be votes and money. All three represent different types of people that went against African American people being able to vote. As we have a black Union soldier holding the American flag, and reaching for the ballot box.

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"Time works wonders"

by [Kaelen Byrum](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 2:55 PM

With the reconstruction in progress, many black men were appointed to office. The black man we see in the cartoon is Hiram Revels. He was the first African-American to be elected into the US senate. The man to the far right, looking back at Revels is former US senator of Mississippi Jefferson Davis, who was replaced by Revels. We see in the cartoon the crowd looking down upon Revels and the men surrounding him. They seem to be intrigued by their business. This cartoon symbolizes both a triumph and a struggle. A triumph because blacks were beginning to take a leadership role and have a place in the US government. But some white men would have seen it as a struggling time due to their positions being taken. Just like Davis and Revels.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1)

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Cartoon #3: "Andrew Johnson's Reconstructionism"

by [Kai Seltman](#) - Saturday, February 28, 2015, 11:54 PM

Although I find it quite convoluted, I will attempt to analyze the third cartoon. The cartoon

illustrates six different scenes. The central scene shows Andrew Johnson next to a wounded African American soldier who we can assume represents the US as 'US' is written across his hat and on his belt buckle. An 'Honorable Discharge' certificate is clenched in his fist, so we can assume that the soldier was discharged for his injured arm. (Although I am not sure, I feel that the soldier is representative of the dark-skinned 'Othello' as well. This point will be clarified later in the post.) They are standing on one side of a building, and just around the corner of a building, a violent riot towards African Americans is taking place. I feel that Andrew Johnson is trying to hide the aftermath of his decisions to the soldier, and his empty statements to try to assuage the public is written across the wall behind him, such as "Treason is a crime and must be made odious, and traitors must be punished," and "I am one of your best friends." In truth, we know that Andrew Johnson is a hypocrite, and that he pardoned the Confederate rebels left and right to pacify his ego and propagate his agenda of restoring 'quasi-slavery'. Andrew Johnson is depicted as a despotic king, as is shown by the royal garment he wears and the words 'I am your Moses' written behind him. The posters that *really* represent how he feels are placed on the outskirts of the scene: the many pardons he extended to Confederate soldiers to the left, and the many vetoes he gave out to limit the freedmen's rights to the right. Southern rights before the Civil War is shown in the top-middle scene: black slaves are being auctioned and lynched by white Southerners. The mid-bottom scene depicts Andrew Johnson as a snake-charmer, and his charms the copperheads (the Anti-war Democrats) into strangling a black man as (what I assume to be) Southern politicians over watches. The main top scene illustrates the aftermath of Andrew Jackson's policies: Southern men massacre African Americans and Northern Republicans, and destroy African American institutions such as schools. What I found most intriguing was Thomas Nast's comparison of Shakespeare's 'Othello' to the Johnson administration. The caption of the central scene of the cartoon is a dialogue between Othello and the conniving Iago. Othello questions, "Dost thou mock me?" to which Iago replies, "I mock you! No, by heaven: would you bear your fortunes like a man." In "Othello", Iago, who has a vendetta against Othello, uses trickery and manipulation to lead Othello ultimately to suicide. So if we were to apply this metaphor to the central scene, it would mean that Nast believes that Andrew Jackson is duping American into self-destruction. This comparison is further solidified by an extracts from "Othello" and Andrew Johnson's own words that Nast placed side-by-side (though I can't make the exact wording out due to the small print.) As to the two drawings, placed on top of each passage, it is a comparison of two similar occasions, but one in 1862, during the Civil War, and the other in 1866, after the Civil War. Although I know that the latter depicts Jackson pardoning a ex-Confederate, I am not sure about the former. All in all, I feel that this is a rich editorial cartoon, that is genius in its depiction of Andrew Johnson's 'Reconstructionism.'

Sum of ratings: 3 (1)

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