

HST 202: History of United States W18 (Escobar Meta 30898 30897)

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Reconstruction Cartoons

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Reconstruction Cartoons

by Joe Escobar - Saturday, February 24, 2018, 12:42 AM

This thread is for discussions on the Reconstruction Cartoons topic.

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, something that describes which cartoon you are addressing . Do NOT simply leave it RE: Reconstruction Cartoons

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"White Man's Government" Cartoon

by Rachel Gragg - Sunday, February 25, 2018, 2:05 PM

In the cartoon entitled "This is a White Man's Government" I think it shows all of the different types of people uniting during the reconstruction in the expense of black men. The cartoon shows a man depicted with a monkey face (which, as we learned in class, is meant to represent an Irish man), a man in a Confederate army uniform with a whip in his pocket and a knife in his hand that says "The Lost Cause" on it, and a man in nice clothes who appears to be wealthier holding what looks like a wallet bursting with money above his head. I am mostly

confused on what this man is meant to represent. These three are all united with their hands clasped together and standing on a black man who is holding onto the Union flag and reaching towards a ballot box.

I think the artist is trying to show that all of these people are trying to keep the black man from voting. The 15th Amendment, according to our textbook, was passed in 1870 and, "...prohibited states from denying the right to vote on grounds of race, color, or previous condition of servitude" (*Liberty, Equality, and Power* pg 574). During Reconstruction, former slaves were granted the right to vote and this cartoon is depicting that Irishmen, Confederate Soldiers, and some wealthy men were angry about the 15th Amendment, and were doing their best to unite together and keep the black man from getting the right to vote because, as the political cartoon states, they believe it to be a "white man's government." They want to stand up together because, as Professor Gallagher stated, they believed that the Civil War was a lost cause for the Confederate army anyways and that they still deserved to be heard. What do you guys think? Do you think that is what the artist is attempting to depict? Also, what are your thoughts on who the man on the right is?

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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President Johnson and the Ballot Issue

by Mariah Goodman - Monday, February 26, 2018, 12:18 AM

I agree completely with your interpretation of the overall meaning behind this cartoon, Rachel. I am fairly positive that the man on the right in question is President Andrew Johnson, who assumed the presidency after Lincoln's assassination. It appears to me that in his hand could very well be money but is in some way related to voting, as the words "Capital" and "for votes" can be seen on the envelope. Johnson seems to be holding this over his head as if to try to be proving that he has successfully prevented black people from having the right to vote, hence the presence of the defeated black man under his foot. This could very well align with Johnson's allowance of states to enact "Black Codes", of which, among many things, prevented black people from serving on juries and from voting, making the government of these (southern) states a "white man's government".

This may be a bit of a stretch, but in googling Johnson's height, he is supposedly five foot ten, but in this photo he appears especially short. I think that this may be an indication of potential judgement of the artist of Johnson's actions, possibly as cowardly, as at one point he claimed to be pro-enfranchisement of black people but later turned out to be extremely anti-black rights. The Irishman is of similar height as well, so I think that the artist may be equating Johnson to someone as lowly (as the Irish were not well-liked) as an Irish man.

But again, this may be a stretch, especially if that is not in fact Johnson.

I am curious as to if the man in the middle is also a significant political figure as well as what the letters "CSA" on his belt refer to.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Re: President Johnson and the Ballot Issue

by Jonathan Haskell - Monday, February 26, 2018, 10:24 AM

I like the thought of this man on the right being Johnson I actually never considered it, but I don't remember seeing pictures of Johnson where he has those impressive mutton chops! Also the letters C.S.A. stand for Confederate States of America Mariah. I enjoyed reading ya post Rachel!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: "White Man's Government" Cartoon

by Jonathan Haskell - Monday, February 26, 2018, 9:14 PM

Hi Rachel! Yes it shows the different types of people united under the Democratic Party against the Reconstruction Act itself. You have the immigrant simian irish which you mentioned then the former Confederate Soldier and the one that stumped us both the politician looking guy. He might just represent "Northern Democrats" or just Democratic political power in general. I am in complete agreement in your comment that they are united against the black vote. I did not catch this the first time I looked at it! I think you nailed it pretty good as far as what the artist is trying to convey. I am not sure who the "politician" on the right is but love his sideburns!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: "White Man's Government" Cartoon

by Elliot Rooy - Thursday, March 1, 2018, 10:59 PM

I completely agree with your interpretation of cartoon #2 and I like how you emphasized that these characters were joining together to prevent blacks from voting or making a political impact. That is the core idea from my prospective. I couldn't tell you if the person on the right is meant to represent any specific person or not but the faint writing on his envelope of money can give us a clue as to his intentions. Its easy to miss, but under the bold lettering for the word "Capital" can be seen the message "For Votes" which I take to mean that he is either a wealthy business man or a banker with political interests that align with the other two's objective. At the very least we know that he is someone who is finding southern political interests.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: "White Man's Government" Cartoon

by Adrianna Rios Chinchilla-Ordoñez - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 12:44 AM

I really liked how you put your answer together. You explained very well on what you thought the image portrayed, and I would agree with you. I do understand the different people not approving of the black man to vote and standing together from making it happen. I see the man on the right holding what seems to be a wallet with money. I would say the man holding the wallet that it may indicate corruption that would happen during voting...? I do remember reading that in the textbook.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Cartoon #3: The Deceit of Johnson

by Mariah Goodman - Sunday, February 25, 2018, 5:13 PM

In this cartoon Thomas Nast appears to be depicting the corruption of President Andrew Johnson and his approach to Reconstruction. The upper portion of the drawing is displaying the “radical riots” between blacks and whites as a result of Reconstruction conflicts. Behind this battling lies a potentially destroyed “Lincoln Chapel”, signaling to me that Nast meant to represent Johnson’s methods as an undoing of Lincoln’s legacy, veering off from the initial wholesome intentions of equality.

In the center of the photo is Johnson in a jester’s costume, seemingly shielding a black Civil War veteran from the horrors of white abuse toward black people. Jesters are often comparable to fools who make mockeries of things, sometimes in a deceitful manner. This, in reference to Johnson, implies that he is tricking the black veteran into thinking that he is protected as a citizen (hence his keeping him behind a wall of romanticized statements and unenforced claims established under federal law). As our textbook Liberty, Equality, and Power notes, Republicans had been attracted to Johnson and wanted to elect him as Vice President for the reason that he claimed to want to deny ex-Confederates of their political power in addition to enfranchising (or giving the right to vote) black people. Once he became president, though, Johnson was a proponent for just the opposite: he offered amnesty, or pardons, for a large portion of ex-Confederates; restored their property and political rights; and perpetuated violence toward black people by allowing white militias. It is clear that he did not uphold the more so Republican Reconstruction ideals that he had at one point claimed to be an advocate for. The cartoon would suggest that despite his blatantly racist actions, he nonetheless may have continued to claim loyalty to the cause of reconstructing the U.S. for the benefit of blacks as well as whites -something Nast clearly thinks is a trick of Johnson’s.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons - Toon #1

by Jonathan Haskell - Monday, February 26, 2018, 9:09 AM

For the first cartoon I am going to look at in more detail is labeled one. You have numerous faces in the upper balcony looking down as if it is a sporting contest with one even having binoculars. It is if everyone is looking down at an historic moment. A couple of the faces are colored in so I expect they are intended to be African American. Below them there is a black man sitting at a desk similar to the one Professor Escobar showed his pictures of, so I take it as a black man is sitting down at such a desk because he is now a Senator. I do not know who the black man is perhaps no one in particular, as his point and purpose is the fact that he is sitting there at all. Surrounding him though is four white men all who look familiar. I am not at all sure but the guy on the left with the chubby face reminds me of Stephen Douglas. There is guy with a like a long beard reminds me of pictures I have seen of Rutherford B. Hayes. I recently watched on Netflix the movie Lincoln which was excellent. The actor David Strathairn plays the part of William Seward the same guy who got beat with a club by the South Carolina guy Brooks, and the third guy with the glasses reminds me of him. The fourth guy also with a chubby face but not the same haircut I remember Douglas having, I believe is the new President Johnson. Hiding behind a wall eavesdropping is the former President of the Confederacy Jefferson Davis. He is hiding behind both the wall as well as a blanket thing. He is also dressed “differently” which reminds me of something I heard in High School. It is the fact that like when the Union troops were coming and Davis had to flee, that he dressed in his

wife's coat perhaps by accident giving the start of the tale that Jefferson Davis was caught wearing women's clothes when captured. The shall thing that Davis is also hiding behind reminds me of that story but I could be off base. They then use a quote from Othello to give us a glimpse into his probable thoughts.

Sum of ratings:2 (1) 2

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Re: My take on cartoon 1

by Jack Swisher - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 6:15 PM

I agree that this is a historic moment and I do remember Escobar in class talking about Seward in class , this was drawn after the 15th amendment in 1870. The black man is a senator, possibly William Seward, who had been elected, and obviously blacks had to have the right to vote or else a black man would have a tough time getting into office, especially in the south. The 15th amendment prohibited states from denying the right to vote on grounds of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. This opened the doors for blacks. When they got the right to vote, "it was like manifestation." (in class video) It also ended up making the United States the first biracial democracy in the world. The whites that didn't agree with blacks voting, ended up boycotting elections and this caused a lot of political victories for blacks. On page 578, it says that "about 80 percent of southern republican voters were black,"

The man is a senator who is talking to other senators, maybe sharing ideas or opinions. The white men don't seem angry or hostile towards him so they obviously respect him in that position. I think the cartoonist was a northern man or a pro civil rights guy who is trying to portray that blacks can hold office. He is trying to show that they can do the job just as well as the white man can. The authors of the book also agree. "Several of the blacks elected to state office were among the best-educated men of their day." Page 578. Men like Blance K. Bruce, Robert Smalls and Robert B. Elliot were all blacks elected to congress who did good jobs and got things done. Who is the man in the hat? Definitely a white supremacist in my opinion judging from the look of disgust on his face when he looks at the black senator. The tables have turned and this man really cannot believe his eyes. The cartoonist in my opinion uses this man to portray that times are changing, and people are not to happy with it (again, the man's face).

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

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Toon #2 - Meeting of 3

by Jonathan Haskell - Monday, February 26, 2018, 10:09 AM

The second cartoon I am going the examine is labeled two. The first thing I noticed was that this was two years or a year and half rather before the first one I looked at. So I imagine tempers would still be flaring hotter and the South would still feel very defeated, as well as the efforts like freeing the black man and the reconstruction of the South would still be very new. It is labeled "This is a White Man's Government" at the top and at the bottom it relays the Platform of the Democratic Party at the time, that the Reconstruction Act was yet another reason to rebel against the government as it was unconstitutional or at least it should be void and ignored. In the background it seems to be a city burning. It could be a southern city like

Atlanta, but it also could be and I think it is New York after the draft riot. It has three men each with one hand thrust out centered on top of another's and standing with one foot a piece on the top of a black man. The black man is by or on top of an American flag, and has a hat next to him that reminds me of the hats worn by the union soldiers so I am guessing he was a soldier in one of the black regiments. It has one man on the right who I do not recognize and look forward to finding out who that is. He has impressive mutton chops and is dressed well with the look of a politician. In his left hand there is a fold over envelope with papers inside with writing on it I can not make out. On the envelope though it is labeled "Capital" and "Votes" so I am guessing that it is what it is. He is shaking hands with a guy across from him who is definitely not dressed as well. He has worn out clothes and boots and looks like a knife in his pocket. He has the face of an ape which we have learned means he is representing the Simian Irish. His hat also reads "5 Points" which means he is from New York most likely from one of the Irish gangs. In his other hand that is not shaking the hand of the clean cut looking politician he is hold a club up high which reads "A Vote". In the center there is a man who is dressed as, and who has a belt buckle with the letters C.S.A. on it leaving no doubt he was a confederate soldier. He has a whip in his back pocket, and a knife held up but pointed downwards towards the black man with the words "The Lost Cause". He has a button on that I can't make out, but it is his hat that gives away who he is. On it it has the initials NB.F.. That tells me it is the guy who started the KKK Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

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Re: Toon #2 - Meeting of 3

by Jonathen Gray - Friday, March 2, 2018, 4:34 PM

The interesting concept that comes to mind when reading your description of the cartoon is the different kinds of people the artist is criticizing with the cartoon. An Irish-Catholic immigrant, Southern power (in the form of Nathan Bedford Forrest), and what I can only assume is a wealthy Northern influence.

The hypocrisy of the past is always confusing to me. In order to bring rights to blacks the artist seeks to humanize the black union soldier but at the same time caricaturize Irish immigrants as apeline cromags.

His pin says Fort Pillow. (I can only make out Fort Pill but it's a solid guess that the commanding officer of the Fort Pillow massacre would have a fort Pillow pin)

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Suffrage is not Suffering

by Jordan Hibbard - Monday, February 26, 2018, 12:57 PM

In Thomas Nast's "The Modern Samson" there is a group of white, presumably southerners, wearing armor reading KKK and carrying swords and weapons, the swords reading the names of the prominent KKK members of the time. One man is holding a flag displaying their ideals: slavery, mob-law, Ku-Klux-Klan, democrats, and some other things. This mob is charging towards a black man, who appears to be injured because he is holding his head, and a woman next to him who looks as though she is protecting him (or trying to). Because of her hair, robe, and scroll it is obvious this woman is Lady Liberty who represents the newly gained, yet still hard to obtain, freedom blacks got after the end of the war. Though it is obvious she is Lady

Liberty she is labeled "Southern Democracy" which at the time should have included black men since they legally had the right to vote, but with the murders and crimes committed by the Klan they often could not vote or were scared to. Lady Liberty is holding out a bundle of plants (most likely olive branches) labeled suffrage which can be perceived to represent the closeness of the anti-slavery/suffrage for blacks and the womens' suffrage movements.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: Suffrage is not Suffering

by Elliot Rooy - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 10:57 PM

I agree with your interpretation of this cartoon and I like how detailed you were with your analysis. Something I noticed that was interesting was that the character in the mob second from the left looks just like another character in the "This is a White Man's Government" cartoon and it turned out to be Nathan Bedford Forrest, the leader of the KKK. He even still has the same Fort Pillow pin on his chest that he did in the other cartoon which I think signifies the deeply ingrained racism that he represents in this illustration. Another thing I saw was a serpent with horns in the lower right hand corner that looks like its hissing at Lady Liberty. This could be an appeal to mysticism in reinforcing the concept that liberty, and therefore freedom, is what is right and just while slavery is an evil institution.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Kyle Schmidt - Monday, February 26, 2018, 1:26 PM

Kyle Schmidt

2/26/18

HST 202

The Modern Samson

This political cartoon connects the turmoil in the south between freed Blacks and former slaveholders with the bible stories of Samson and Moses. The cartoon depicts a free slave being attacked by rioters representing the Ku Klux Klan, the New York riots, The fort pillow massacre and other anti black groups. One of the rioters in this cartoon is Blair and another is Robert E. Lee, a confederate general who actually opposed secession but couldn't betray his home and became a supporter of a slave south even during reconstruction era evidently. Lee's reasoning for supporting a slaveholding south follows "I must either side with or against my section... I cannot raise my hand against my birthplace, my home, my children." (Page 504.)

The south also used Lee as a figure head during this time because, he could be talked about without bringing up slavery, and he was a strong leader who supported their cause. The south presented their loss as a valiant struggle against overwhelming odds and that they fought with honor under Lee's leadership. However this political cartoon is clearly not a supporter of Lee or the popular southern views because these men are portrayed as savages and rioters who burn books. This cartoon was most likely written by a Unionist or at least a southern democrat and

depicts southern democracy attempting to protect the african american alone holding what I think is an olive branch with the world suffrage written on it, representing the southern democrats struggle to defend black rights while vastly unpopular. I mentioned in the beginning that this relates to bible stories because a statue of moses holding the ten commandments is in the background who's story played in important role in the abolitionist movement. Also the title of the cartoon is the Modern Samson, the story goes Samson was an israelite warrior that was captured and enslaved by philistine after losing his hair, the source of his godlike strength. God granted him revenge by returning his strength to Samson and he destroyed his captures and himself in the process. This story well represents the time period because freed slaves finally have a chance to push back against their captors. Not necessarily to take revenge but the analogy of strength being returned to the enslaved is not lost as well as the resistance that is met upon acquiring their freedom. I think this cartoon is a warning relating to the story of Samson that country is on track to meet the same end of destroying each other.

Works Cited:

Gallagher, director. Lost Cause.
media.lanecc.edu/users/escobarj/202/forums/3/2_lost_cause.mp4.

Murrin, John M.; Hämäläinen, Pekka; Johnson, Paul E.; Brunsman, Denver; McPherson, James M.. Cengage Advantage Books: Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People, Volume 1: To 1877 (Page 504).

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3



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Cartoon #4: "The Modern Samson"

by Carley Kramer - Monday, February 26, 2018, 5:18 PM

This cartoon drawn by Thomas Nast, entitled "The Modern Samson," alludes to the biblical story of Samson. I'm not an expert on the old testament, but I do know that Samson was an Israelite that was given divine strength on the condition that he not cut his hair. In the story, Samson is betrayed, his hair is cut, and he's given to his enemies.

In the cartoon, we see the "modern Samson" portrayed as a black American. Behind him is a woman labelled "Southern Democracy" that is holding a knife and his cut hair, which is labelled "suffrage." Approaching the now vulnerable "Samson" is an angry mob, waving a flag that reads "Slavery, The Lost Cause Regained" and something about Ku Klux Klan Democrats. When we compare these aspects of the cartoon to the biblical tale of Samson, we can see that Nast is saying that suffrage is (or should have been) the strength of reconstruction and blacks in America and that this strength was taken by Southern Democracy, leaving "Samson" (representing either black Americans or the Union) vulnerable to his enemies (which are the confederate evils of white supremacy and slavery).

Behind "Southern Democracy" is a statue of "Moses". I believe that this statue is of Andrew Johnson due to the likeness, whatever he's holding (probably a tablet) that reads "veto," and his role in undermining reconstruction, specifically tied to the south and suffrage. Our textbook has a large section on Johnson and reconstruction that I think ties in well with this cartoon. Republicans initially had faith in Johnson to handle reconstruction the way that they envisioned: "Johnson seemed to promise the type of reconstruction [radical republicans] favored-- one that would deny political power to ex-Confederates and would enfranchise blacks." (p. 564) However, this is far from what Johnson had in mind. The textbook goes on to mention that Johnson allowed the formation of white militias and neo-Confederate units such as the ones seen in the mob, empowered ex-Confederates in reconstruction, and rather than supporting suffrage believed that "White men alone must govern the South." (p. 565) The veto mentioned in the cartoon also ties to suffrage: "Meanwhile, Congress passed two laws to protect the economic and civil rights of freedpeople. The first extended the life of the Freedman's Bureau and expanded its powers. The second defined freedpeople as citizens with equal legal rights and gave federal courts appellate jurisdiction to enforce those rights. To the dismay of moderates who were trying to heal the widening breach between the president and Congress, Johnson vetoed both measures." (p. 569)

I believe that this ties in with the betrayal theme of the tale of Samson and the important role of suffrage in the enfranchisement of blacks and reconstruction. I think that the theme of this cartoon is that by denying black Americans suffrage, Southerners and Andrew Johnson were subverting the Republican ideals of reconstruction and making black Americans and the Union vulnerable to the Confederate ideals that it had just fought to defeat.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

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Re: Cartoon #4: "The Modern Samson"

by Kyle Schmidt - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 10:08 AM

Response

Hi! I really liked this interpretation of the "Modern Samson" cartoon. I chose to review the same one and I found it really interesting how different many peoples responses were on the exact same topic. This one stood out to me because I honestly didn't notice that the statue was representative of Andrew Johnson and this realization changed my outlook on the political cartoon and added more depth to it. I actually learned about his presidency just from this forum and your quotes were good and relevant. I feel like there was a lot going on in this particular cartoon and I also did not realize that the Lady representing southern democracy was the same person who cut samson's hair in the story. Details like these are why I think discussion is interesting and I know this is kinda random but If anyone knows what the dragon in the corner is about please make a reply I am just curious.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoon #4: "The Modern Samson"



by Carley Kramer - Friday, March 2, 2018, 8:29 AM

Hi! It was the “veto” written on the tablet that told me this was definitely Johnson, which is a very easy aspect to overlook. These political cartoons give us so much information in these small details that are very easy to miss, so it’s nice to have other people that might’ve noticed something you didn’t to discuss with. For example, I completely overlooked the burning books in the side of the cartoon and “ the democratic barbeque” written on the pillar in the background; together these are probably about race riots and the burning of freedman schools. I also feel that this cartoon would be difficult to evaluate if you weren’t fairly familiar with Samson. The reason I believed that “southern democracy” was the one that cut Samson’s hair is because in the story, Samson’s wife cut his hair in his sleep, which fits with what appears to be happening in the cartoon and the portrayal of southern democracy as a woman.

I have no idea about the dragon in the corner and hardly noticed it, so thanks for pointing that out. Maybe it’s meant to represent the Devil as there is a biblical context for this cartoon, and I don’t see any writing on or near it to give more explanation. If there is more meaning to this aspect of the cartoon, unfortunately it’s over my head.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Time really does work wonders

by Mackenzi Knoll - Monday, February 26, 2018, 9:17 PM

One of the political cartoons from this week's forum that stands out to me most is the one titled "Time Works Wonders". This cartoon is demonstrating Reconstruction where black men were elected and joined the U.S. office for the first time in history. Although it wasn't a huge percentage of black men who were being elected into office compared to white men during this time of reconstruction, this was and still models a huge mark in history for African Americans. Hiram Revels is the black man in the cartoon (the very first African American to join office) who is sitting across from the white men. I believe that among the white men include Jefferson Davis, Carl Schurz and Ulysses Grant. I think that the artist of this cartoon is in favor of this mark in history, as we see the title "Time Works Wonders" and are able to see that black men are finally being included in American government and are working alongside whites after a long journey of being treated as less than human. I believe the artist is trying to convey equality in this piece because at this point in history white men and black men together in office was something that had never been done ever before. The artist places Charles Sumner (in the very front of the cartoon) looking at this mark in history, probably amazed at how far things have come.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Interpreting Cartoon #1

by Nicholas Stevens - Monday, February 26, 2018, 9:18 PM

In analyzing cartoon #1 you first notice the quote is from Jefferson Davis. In the quote he says, "... the lusty moor hath leap'd into my seat: The thought whereof doth like a poisonous mineral gnaw my inwards." The "lusty moor" he is talking about is Hiram Revels which you can see written on the desk he is sitting at. You can see from the picture and the quote, the thought of Revels taking his spot as senator and being welcomed by others is very upsetting.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Interpreting Cartoon #1

by Jonathan Haskell - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 8:17 AM

Senator Revels! I didn't catch that the first go around. It is hard to see but you are right completely legible. Thanks for the catch! Also, it isn't quoting Davis, but I think Davis is quoting Shakespeare. I love how you took the Othello quote though and related it to what you saw in the cartoon or what the characters of the cartoon are seeing rather. Nice!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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missing pieces

by Mackenzi Knoll - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 1:10 PM

Thank you for noticing that. I knew that the newly black senator was Hiram Revels by the context of the art, but did not notice that the words "Senator Revels" were written on the desk! I am glad you saw this!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Kara Longstreth - Monday, February 26, 2018, 10:10 PM

"Time works wonders"

An ashamed Abraham Lincoln is looking upon a black man, who is likely referring to Robert B. Elliot, in a congressional chair. The desk reads "senator reveals", telling the viewer this is indeed true. Jefferson Davis stands beside the desk staring at the black man whose desk is surrounded by 3 other white congressmen.

The three men around the desk look suspiciously calm. Jefferson has his hand on the chair and another man is leaning on the black congressman's desk. I can see where this could possibly come off as confronting to the new congressman; although, it almost looks as if one man is really listening to what the black congressman has to say. Their facial expressions leave no clue to which side it is leaning towards.

As I see it, the main purpose was to mock the Republicans. It is almost as if it is saying "If Lincoln can only see what he has done!" This is what I drew from the painting. Although I could be incorrectly identifying the main man in the cartoon.



"TIME WORKS WONDERS."

IAGO. (JEFF DAVIS.) "FOR THAT I DO SUSPECT THE LUSTY MOOR
HATH LEAP'D INTO MY SEAT: THE THOUGHT WHEREOF
DOTH LIKE A POISONOUS MINERAL GNAW MY INWARDS?" — OTHELLO.

Sum of ratings: 1 (1) 1

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Jonathan Haskell - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 8:25 AM

I am examining the cartoon and trying to find the person you are referring to as Lincoln. There is a face in the back who does sort of resemble Lincoln standing behind the guy leaning over the desk who I guessed is President Johnson. I honestly thought that was like a bust of Lincoln, but I think it may be too soon for something like that. I do think though that Lincoln is long shot in the head and deceased so you are mistaking him. I think now rereading your words I think you are mistaking Jefferson Davis for Lincoln and someone else for Jefferson Davis. Jefferson Davis is the guy in the robe shocked at what he sees behind the wall. Thanks for your view!

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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time works wonders response

by Mackenzi Knoll - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 1:23 PM

I too believe that you are mistaking Lincoln for someone else. I think that the man in the foreground closest to us, looking at the scene is actually Jefferson Davis. This is who I believe you may be mistaking Lincoln for, but I might be wrong! They do look similar in my opinion. I think the men in the back include Hiram Revels (the black man), then from left to right I believe goes Henry Wilson, Oliver Morton, Carl Schurz and Charles Sumner. Hopefully that's in the right order. I too did not realize who these people were the first time around. I think that I had a little bit of a misinterpretation, but I think I have figured it out now. Let me know what you think!

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Kara Longstreth - Friday, March 2, 2018, 7:46 PM

The man I was referring too as Lincoln is the man in jester costume at the very front. Upon further inspection I believe that the man is Thaddeus Stevens. I believe that the cartoon is calling his party (The Radical Republicans) fools, hence the costume. The artists of this cartoon is mocking them by showing them the "horror" of a black in a politicians chair. The cartoon was obviously drawn by a democrat of this era. It was difficult to decipher who that man was in the Jester costume; however, I do believe that he looks fairly similar to Thaddeus Stevens and Jefferson Davis. It does make sense that it would be Jefferson Davis, given the quote at the bottom of the picture. The two men look very similar. The deciding factor may be the political slant of the cartoon. Is it a Pro- democrat cartoon or pro- republican cartoon? If it is Pro-Dem then the man would be Stevens; If it is Pro-Rep then the man should be Davis.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Nicholas Stevens - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 9:28 PM

I think that your interpretation of this cartoon is good, I just think you have the names of the people in the wrong places. I can see a little resemblance between the man you say is Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln himself, but I think he is actually Jefferson Davis. The man

sitting at the desk we learn from the textbook, is Hiram Revels. The writing on the desk says "Senator Revels" referring to Hiram Revels. From the most part it looks like the people standing around him are welcoming him, which I think is why Davis is so disgusted by the sight.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Nicholas Stevens - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 10:04 PM

Also as a further look into the people surrounding Senator Revels, the man on the far right almost looks like Charles Sumner. I'm not entirely sure but if it is then that would show that these are Northern Senators who are welcoming Revels rather than Senators who are trying to intimidate him.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon 5

by Benjamin Hawley-Gamer - Monday, February 26, 2018, 10:49 PM

In this cartoon it seems as though the artist centers on the idea of what emancipation should mean. You have the African American family and they are all happy and free with their own lives. In the outer scenes it looks like it depicts a timeline of events, the blacks being brought into america, being sold and whipped, working on the plantations and then the civil war is depicted in the top right corner. The next three scenes in the order seem to eventually lead into what the center frame depicts, the slaves are freed and it is shown that black children are running to their public school and it looks as though they are depicted as having a normal life.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Mixed Ideologies

by Daryn Kleynhans - Monday, February 26, 2018, 11:20 PM

In Image #1 I see a cartoon that is showing that rich (southern) whites still hated blacks and thought they were lesser. That is why the gentleman with the plume in his hat is turned away covering himself and looking back in disgust. While the, apparent, working class whites seemed interested what the black man was saying. He appears to be writing a law or approving a law, since he is holding a place of office. The "Time Works Wonders" caption addresses the issue that black men and women were still hated even though they were listened to by some. Image #4 is a confusing portrait. The black man laying down is said to be "a modern samson" which depicts the black man as to have had power and now that power has been "cut" by the northerns who want to end slavery. This cartoon appears to be drawn by a southern cartoonist as it is depicting that slavery gave the slaves real power and the northern democrats are trying to take that away from them. The "Southern Democracy" is depicted to have the Bible on its side as they drew Moses holding the ten commandments on which is written "veto". Which I assume is meant to say veto the reconstruction plan of the north.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

0

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Re: Mixed Ideologies

by Jonathan Haskell - Thursday, March 1, 2018, 8:37 PM

Definitely white people of the south thought blacks were their lessers. As did many in the North too. The gentleman in the plume hat I believe is Jefferson Davis. I think the "apparent working class whites" as you called them I think are very important people. I think that is President Johnson for example. I guessed wrong the first time but after seeing a picture of him in class the guy with glasses looks like Edwin Stanton. Thanks for your thoughts!

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

0

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Re: Mixed Ideologies

by Kara Longstreth - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 6:00 PM

Hey! You mentioned how you belived that the men around the black congressmans desk were welcoming and inclinded to listening to him. I too thought that at first since their faces were not outwardly aggresive. I then put myself in the shoes of that man and I felt a much different tone to the scene. The Congress man is surrounded by the "big boys" of the senate. If I was surrounded by them, I would feel very intimidated. Im interested if the Artist drew the cartoon this way for it to have a dual interpretation, depending upon the viewer.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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emancipation

by Cody Simon - Monday, February 26, 2018, 11:22 PM

In the political cartoon with a heading emancipation. What we can see is a story, a story that revolves around slavery and family. The article shows us the path that was walked by slavery eventually leading to their emancipation. The story starts with a ship that brought the slaves to the USA. This is followed by attempts at escape from their captivity with no success. Then we see slave families being separated by the auction block. This leads to the war where slaves are finally freed and the story continues. But at this time they have been emancipated this is shown by black families at a cashier meaning they are working a job and making and income leading to the family moving into a house and sending their kids to school. But the most important thing this story shows is families. This whole story is drawn to revolve around slave families because they help each other endure the hardest of times on the road to emancipation. That is why in the middle it is a picture of a family. The whole piece is being held together by the idea of family.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Dreams of Emancipation: Cartoon 5.

by Lloyd Higgins - Monday, February 26, 2018, 11:47 PM

Upon reading about the emancipation proclamation and the civil rights act of 1875, it is clear that freed blacks in the United States after the Civil War did not necessarily have the easiest time. The center panel in cartoon five depicts an idyllic life, free from worry and stress. A perfect example of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. However, during the reconstruction era and well thereafter, there was still an incredible amount of racial discrimination against freed blacks in the country. The other panels in the cartoon depict this accurately. Things were so bad in fact, that the civil rights act of 1875 was eventually struck down by the Supreme court in 1883, only eight years later, for being unconstitutional in not protecting peoples rights to discriminate against others. This precedent would still continue all the way until 1951, during the civil rights movement. To get back to the cartoon however, it is clear that the artist not only is describing that particular court case, but also the various pains and hardships that occurred despite emancipation. The word emancipation is even emblazoned near the top of the cartoon. Perhaps to represent an ideal or dream to strive towards, despite the overwhelming difficulty presented along the way.

Sum of ratings:2 (1) 2

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Cartoon #2 is exposing Southern Political strategy.

by Elliot Rooy - Monday, February 26, 2018, 11:55 PM

I'll be discussing cartoon #2 "This is a White Man's Government!" I believe that this illustration is from the prospective of a Northerner or perhaps a Southern Republican and is highlighting some of the Southern strategy to take back control of the post-war United States Government. Pictured is an Irishman wielding a club with the words "A Vote" inscribed on it. This represents the blunt force that was used at the poles to prevent people from voting against their cause. The next man is a Confederate soldier as noted by his CFA belt, holding a knife with the words "The Lost Cause" written on it. I believe that this shows the appeal to people's sympathy and emotion that was evoked through the Lost Cause version of history that many Confederate sympathizers felt. The Confederate is going to commit suicide with the knife in an attempt to martyr himself for the cause and rally people in Southern support. The final character is a wealthy man, perhaps a banker, holding above his head an envelope filled with voting capital used to financially support the campaigns and political efforts of the South. The men are joining hands in the center to illustrate their combined effort and beneath their feet lies a half trampled black Union soldier who tried to oppose their movement. He is reaching for something that I can't identify, comment if you know what it is! Also to note is the burning school and orphanage in the background which represents the destroyed post-war south from which they rally.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: Cartoon #2 is exposing Southern Political strategy.

by Jonathan Haskell - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 8:32 AM

Loved your take! I do think it shows Democrats not Republicans though. Also what he was grabbing at first I just thought it was like a fallen street lamp due to the burning city in the background, but I think now that is way off. If I had to guess since the politician guy or you called him a banker is holding "votes", maybe it is an old fashioned old school voting box. Like the type that just sits there, and you put your paper vote in. Mr. Escobar showed us a couple pictures of them and one was see through kind of like that.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

[Permalink](#) | [Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)**Cartoon #3: "Andrew Johnson's Reconstruction, and How It Works"**

by Carley Kramer - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 7:56 AM

This cartoon, again by Thomas Nast, focuses on critiquing Johnson's reconstruction policy. It's titled, "Andrew Johnson's Reconstruction, and How It Works." The illustrations on the top and sides of the comic list negative aspects or consequences of Johnson's reconstruction policy. Listed on the top is "radical riots." On the left is a riot labelled Memphis, and on the right is one labelled New Orleans. Our textbook mentioned these specific riots briefly: "Further, race riots in Memphis and New Orleans, with white mobs attacking blacks...." (p.570) Listed to each side is "pardon to rebels" and "vetoes to union men." "Vetoes to union men" refers to Johnson's vetoing of a bill that would have granted citizenship and equal rights to African Americans, while reminding the reader that many black soldiers had fought for the union. "Pardon to rebels" refers to Johnson's many presidential pardons to ex-Confederates. As our textbook states, "After talking fiercely about punishing traitors, and after excluding several classes of them from his amnesty proclamation, Johnson began to issue special pardons to many ex-Confederates, restoring to them all property and political rights." (p.566)

This quote points out the hypocrisy and deceit that seems to be associated with Johnson, which is actually another aspect of this cartoon. On the wall behind Johnson in the middle of the cartoon are posters of Johnson's quotes and policies that contradict themselves such as "traitors must be punished" and "love thine enemies" or "veto of the freedman's bill and civil rights bill" and "all for your good." In the foreground we see Johnson talking to an injured black union soldier. Beneath them is the caption, "OTHELLO: Dost thou mock me? IAGO: I mock you! No, by Heaven: would you bear your fortunes like a man." This refers to the Shakespeare play Othello, which explains Johnson's interesting outfit. In Othello, which does deal with issues of race, Iago is a villainous, manipulative, and deceitful character that plots against Othello while pretending to support him. By comparing Johnson to the character Iago, the cartoon is again highlighting Johnson's hypocritical policies and deceitful or manipulative reputation. I can't read the two boxes of text in the bottom corners, but I think one is another Othello quote and one is a quote or quotes from Johnson.

In the bottom of the cartoon we see a black man being attacked by a snake while Johnson is portrayed as the snake charmer. In the background are two posters, one of which says something about vetoes and pardons. I can't read the other very well, but I think it might say something about Copperheads, which ties to snake theme. I'm not sure who the people in the room are, but maybe if they were democrats this part of the cartoon would have something to do with Johnson's veto of the civil rights bill and the support it gained or helped maintain among democrats. However, I'm not sure about this part of the cartoon, and would be curious to know who the other people drawn in this section are.

Overall, I think that this cartoon is against Johnson's reconstruction policy and that the artist may have supported civil rights or been a Republican.

Sum of ratings:3 (1)

3

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Kyle Schmidt

2/27/18

"A White Man's Government"

This political cartoon depicts the oppression of freemen and women and their denial of the right to vote during the postwar era of reconstruction. The man in the middle standing on an African American has the letters N.B.F on his hat and a Confederate States of America belt buckle and uniform. A confederate general by the name of Nathan Bedford Forrest fits the description of this man. "In fact many klansmen were former soldiers, and such famous confederate generals as Nathan Bedford Forrest and John B. Gordon held high positions in the clan." (pg. 576) Forrest was one of many radical ex-confederates that formed the terrorist group Ku Klux Klan. In the cartoon he is depicted with a whip in his pocket and brandishing a knife labeled the lost cause, which I'm guessing is referring to the rebellion and is still alive in the hearts of the clansmen. The man on the right is dressed in a suit and bowtie and holding a bundle of cash that has "for votes" written on it. Judging by his attire I'm guessing this man is a southern politician or banker that is using capital to manipulate the electoral votes representing the corruption in politics that ran rampant during this era. The third man is dressed in ripped pants and common clothes suggesting he is some sort of lower or middle class citizen. From his clothes and the way that he is drawn differently from the other two men I would guess he is an immigrant probably Irish or German. This man is holding a club labeled with a single vote which at the time was about the only influence the average citizen had in politics. This isn't much, however it is more than the free men and women had at this point and he is shown brandishing it like a weapon similarly to Forrest. All three are white men of power in the south that join hands to combine each of their separate powers for a common goal. With money, fear and popular opinion the southern government desperately tried to suppress black rights and prevent the passing of the 14th and 15th amendments. I can't say for sure but I would guess the buildings burning in the background are representative of the anti-black riots in Memphis. "Because freedpeople's education symbolized black progress, whites who resented and resisted this progress sometimes attacked and burned freedmen's schools." (pg. 572) Preventing freemen and women from becoming literate was another tactic used by the south in trying to prevent a black vote, hence the burning of the Freedmen's schools. Lastly the African American being oppressed in this cartoon is clutching an American flag on the ground and reaching out to what I think is a ballot box or at least that would make sense in the situation. Given this last point especially I think this proves this is almost certainly a northern political cartoon criticizing the southern government for abusing the powers of white men in power to suppress the rights of African Americans. However the flag and ballot box on the ground are signs of hope that liberty and equality can be restored to the Nation.

Murrin, John M.; Hämäläinen, Pekka; Johnson, Paul E.; Brunsman, Denver; McPherson, James M.. Cengage Advantage Books: Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People, Volume 1: To 1877 (Page 572). Cengage Learning. Kindle

Edition.

Murrin, John M.; Hämmäläinen, Pekka; Johnson, Paul E.; Brunsman, Denver; McPherson, James M.. Cengage Advantage Books: Liberty, Equality, Power: A History of the American People, Volume 1: To 1877 (Page 576). Cengage Learning. Kindle Edition.

Sum of ratings:3 (1) 3

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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons

by Jonathan Haskell - Thursday, March 1, 2018, 8:58 PM

I really enjoyed your take on "A White Man's Government"! The man in the middle is definitely Nathan Bedford Forrest great catch! I disagree that "The Lost Cause" on the danger is referring to the Confederacy though. I don't sense that. I think he is talking about the Reconstruction of the South as "The Lost Cause". You are the second person who thinks the man on the right is banker, you both are convincing me but I don't necessarily think he is southern. The 5 points Simian Irish is definitely not Southern. If he comes from the 5 points of New York City. I state that just because you said "All three are white men of power in the south". I think it is three different types of people perhaps from different areas that are coming together as Democrats to fight the Reconstruction of the South. I like your seeing of the burning buildings in the background and guessing Memphis race riots. I guess New York draft riots but now I think my guess would of already happened so doubting myself again. Like I said I loved your take and agree with a lot of your words. Appreciate it!

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: White mans government

by Jack Swisher - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 5:31 PM

The cartoon A white man's government. When I first look at this cartoon I see a few things jump out at me. First, the black man being stepped on by the other three white men. The black man looks like he has a union army uniform on, the hat laying next to him really hints that. The man with the bat that says "a vote", I think that means that the author doesn't think that blacks should vote so he is beating the man who thinks he should vote. It also could describe the violence toward blacks shortly after the war. "Reports from the south told of neo-confederates violence against blacks and their white sympathizers. Johnson seemed to encourage such activities by the allowing the organization of white militias." (page 566) This could also be a small white militia that didn't want blacks to be involved in government. If you notice the ballot box in the bottom right corner, that also signals to me that this cartoonist didn't believe blacks should vote. The ballot box is just out of the reach of the free black man. In the south, blacks were treated badly, and one way was because they were excluded from voting. "Instead the states excluded blacks from the ballot box, did not permit them to testify against whites in court." This from page 566. The flag to me signals that even though the black man is now a

freedman, he is still somewhat treated like a slave. The man on the right looks to me like Andrew Johnson. Johnson was not a fan of black people especially in government. From a video in class, "Africans don't play a vision in Johnson's want for bringing the north and south's whites together." These men could also be lower class white men who need work and see the newly freedmen as competition for jobs and that is why he is on the ground. In the lecture from Tuesday the 27th "Whites saw blacks as competitors." All in all, this cartoonist was definitely a southern man who was not happy that black people were now free, and had the same rights as the white people of the country did.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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#4 Samson vs the South

by Jonathen Gray - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:42 PM

The title of this is "the Modern Samson" and depicts an African American having suffrage cut from his head by Southern Democracy. Southern Democracy depicted as a woman and this comic showing clear connections with the biblical story of Samson and Delilah.

In the bible story Delilah cuts off the hair of Samson which deprives him of his strength. The connection in the comic being that if you keep African Americans from having the ability to vote you make sure to keep them from having political power. Another interesting biblical connection is that of President Andrew Johnson depicted as Moses which conveys that Johnson is attempting to lead African Americans to the promised land. I believe this to be figuratively and not an actual resettlement idea.

Other interesting concepts include Southern figures burning books, holding up signs that promote the KKK, the "lost cause" concept, and the draft riots. This comic is in clear support of African American suffrage and is a pretty grim and unforgiving look at Southern leaders. The comic further goes on to demonstrate the reasoning behind why these Southern leaders would be opposed to African American suffrage as it would ultimately decrease their political influence while increasing African American influence.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Modern Samson Through New Eyes

by Jordan Hibbard - Friday, March 2, 2018, 4:37 PM

I did not know of this bible story before reading your post, but it has given me a whole new insight about this cartoon, however, it also shows that my interpretation was probably very far off, which is perfectly okay because I now know the more likely story behind the cartoon. I hope to do more research on this story and discover more detail in this drawing to back up the idea.

Sum of ratings:0 (1)

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Re: Cartoon 5

by Jack Swisher - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 8:10 PM

When I look at cartoon number five, I see a lot of different images. The first thing that comes to my mind is image on the left is the bad times with slavery, and every image on the right is the positive new life following the civil war. In the top left, I believe that it is a drawing trying to symbolize how bad the capturing of runaway slaves were. Whites used dogs to help find the slaves, and in this picture, the dogs look very ferocious. The top right corner to me looks way more peaceful. The lady holding the weight thing has it being equal. Here the cartoonist is promoting equality. He is showing that blacks shouldn't have to escape from their freedom, but it is morally right to have it. In the middle left drawing, it looks as if a man is being sold at a slave auction. There is a lady on her knees begging to a white man who probably the man buying the slave. The slave is her husband, and she wants to keep the whole family together. Now to the middle right, the family is together and happy. The kids are going to a public school, which shows a lot of progress because of how illiterate the blacks in the south were. So far, the cartoonist has showed that the emancipation proclamation was definitely for the good. Down to the bottom left corner, slaves are shown here being whipped and punished while working. The picture gets a lot better when the black man working for the white man for a portion of the money made off of the cotton crop. The black man looks like he is respecting the white man, and the same goes for the white man towards the black man. The farthest picture to the right on the bottom to me shows the black people making some money, from the cashier sign. This also shows the emancipation proclamation as a positive thing because the black people go from being brutally whipped, to working and making money like the white man can do. The picture in the middle to me puts it all together. The black family has exactly what any other family in the country has. They are all together, the father probably has a job and that is why they have their own house. Shortly after the slaves were freed, it was tough for blacks to buy property because of how little money they had, but conditions improved, just like the cartoonist portrayed throughout the drawing.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1

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Time Works Wonders Cartoon

by Rachel Gragg - Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 9:51 PM

I interpreted this cartoon as the cartoonist's way of depicting Jefferson Davis' fall from power during Reconstruction, and a rise in African American power. Our textbook tells us that, "Of 14 black representatives and two black senators elected in the South between 1868 and 1876, all but three had attended secondary school and four had attended college" (*Liberty, Equality, and Power* pg 578). In the picture, there is a black man seated at a podium that says "Senator Revels" (Revels, I can only assume is the name of one of the first black senators?) and he is surrounded by white men who seem to be holding power, however, none of them seem to be looking at him with anger in their eyes, but they all seem to be looking at him with interest.

Then, in the foreground of the picture, you see Jefferson Davis, holding some sort of large fabric around him and looking towards the black man of power with disgust. The cartoon is captioned as, "Iago. (Jeff Davis.) 'For that I do suspect the lusty Moor hath leap'd into my seat: the thought whereof doth like a poisonous mineral gnaw my inwards.'--Othello."

This cartoon is stating that Jefferson Davis is disgusted (so much to say it is eating at his insides) that there is a black man in his former seat of power. In no way at this time period did most people consider black men equal to white men in the South yet, but they were granted a few seats of power, whereas, Jefferson Davis, as former president of the Confederate States of

America, was not only thrown from his powerful seat, but thrown in jail. I think cartoon is depicting Jefferson Davis and his anger towards black men who were rising in power. What do you guys think? Who do you think the men standing around the black man are?

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

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Re: Time Works Wonders Cartoon

by Jonathen Gray - Friday, March 2, 2018, 3:54 PM

The reference to Iago is a pretty biting insult referencing Shakespeare's Othello. Iago spends the majority of the play scheming, lying, and being filled with hate against Othello. I'd imagine a modern comparison would be something like calling Donald Trump emperor Palpatine. The intent of making the comparison as mean as possible. Interestingly enough the Moors were African and the character Iago thought that his authority was usurped. A visually and thematically fitting comparison the events happening with Jefferson.

I'd venture a guess in saying that his fellow senators pictured in the cartoon are supposed to be welcoming like you mentioned. Among them is radical Republican Charles Sumner who was fairly in favor of promoting black rights.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Cartoon 3: Johnsons play

by Lloyd Higgins - Thursday, March 1, 2018, 8:07 PM

In cartoon number 3, it is clear that the artist is depicting the reconstruction era and the policies that President Johnson supported during this time. The cartoon depicts Johnson in Shakespearean attire, perhaps putting on a play to demonstrate his sympathy towards Black Americans and republicans in the reconstruction era. This is detailed on page 564 when Johnson appears to support Republican legislation for unity among black and white voters. This would not be the case however, as Johnson repeatedly vetoed legislation by Republicans to promote civil rights among Black Americans. The cartoon clearly demonstrates this sort of two faced behavior with the play in the foreground, Johnson being sympathetic towards the plight of freedmen. While in the background, chaos reigns as white supremacists and terror organizations reign over the post-war south and legislation by Republicans for reform is repeatedly vetoed by president Johnson. The cartoon goes into even further critique by showing Johnson as a snake charmer for southern Democrats and politicians who support more segregation and the subjugation of Black Americans.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

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Re: Cartoon 3: Johnsons play

by Kyle Schmidt - Friday, March 2, 2018, 2:59 PM

I personally liked this particular cartoon but, I honestly didn't understand it enough to pick it for one of my reviews. It was good to hear it explained in a straightforward way that helped me learn what is really going on in this scene. I guess president Johnson was an easy

target at this time but I still think its really funny to see a president portrayed this way. Now after learning about his presidency in class it contributes to how I now see this cartoon differently. Thanks Higgins.

Sum of ratings:0 (1) 0

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Emancipation Cartoon

by Rachel Gragg - Friday, March 2, 2018, 3:35 PM

The cartoon about Emancipation is very powerful. What I think it is depicting is what the country is like before emancipation and what the cartoonist hopes the world will be like following the Emancipation Proclamation. Since this cartoon was made at a time where the cartoonist had no way of knowing what the future would be like with emancipation, I think it's the artist portrayal of his hopes for the future. On the left of the picture, we are revealed to the harsh realities of slavery. There are people running in fear, slaves being auctioned off, and slaves being brutally whipped by their masters. On the right side of the picture, there are people seeming to be worshipping and looking up to the "Emancipation" banner at the top, black children waving goodbye to their parents as they run off to public school, and black men and women going to a window marked as "Cashier" receiving payment for their work. This is all surrounding a depiction of a happy African American family in the center.

The artist is looking forward to the future following emancipation and is trying to get viewers to see how much better and brighter the country will be once black men are free. We know now that it takes much longer than that and there are still many issues to come, but the artist at the time, I would assume, was unaware of all the hardship that was to come and that the Emancipation Proclamation wouldn't automatically solve everything. Our textbook states that, "...the fate of slavery depended on the outcome of the war. And despite Confederate defeats in 1863, that outcome was by no means certain. Some of the heaviest fighting lay ahead" (*Liberty, Equality, and Power* Pg 545). The Emancipation Proclamation definitely did some good and eventually we would get to the point that the cartoonist was attempting to get across, but there was still hardship and injustice and pain to come.

Sum of ratings:2 (1) 2

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Re: Emancipation Cartoon

by Elliot Rooy - Friday, March 2, 2018, 10:33 PM

I agree with your interpretation of this cartoon. I like how it highlighted many aspects of free life with the inclusion of freed blacks like you pointed out; integrated public schools and the man at the cashiers window presumably being paid a fair wage for his work which both became great struggles for the civil rights movement farther down the road. Something else I liked was what is happening in the second smaller bubble at the bottom of the cartoon. It appears to be an angel freeing a slave which gives this issue a higher significance and strikes to the root of morality. It is saying that this is more than just an economic or social issue but that slavery is a crime against humanity itself.

Sum of ratings:1 (1) 1

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Re: Emancipation Cartoon

by Kyle Schmidt - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 5:17 PM

Hi! I enjoyed your interpretation of this cartoon I feel like it had a lot of elements to it and your analysis shows that. This political cartoon I think was particularly dark because it showed the huge emancipation banner and just a simple picture of a happy african american family in clouds as if it were a dream but it is surrounded by all the harsh realities and I didn't realize this at first. I agree that this drawing is more of a warning from the artist after re evaluating the cartoon and it seems this was a popular theme for the reconstruction era.

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1



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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons #3

by Adrianna Rios Chinchilla-Ordoñez - Friday, March 2, 2018, 11:32 PM

Andrew Johnson was now President. Lincoln did he best to help the slaves be free and have equal rights. He was assassinated and Johnson took over to take his place. Johnson had very strong thoughts on the opposite of what Lincoln would of wanted. He came up with a policy, and Radical Republicans were forming a policy to make progress in the Reconstruction, which Johnson didn't agree with their vision and instead followed through with his own decision. He wanted to leave out blacks and whites in the upper class from being a part of the reconstruction process. Four million slaves were freed from slavery, but still not seen the same as the whites. The blacks would get punished more for crimes than the whites, or couldn't own their own land, but most importantly blacks were not wanted to participate in the Union and to continue as laborers. Johnson vetoed two bills that would "compound our race with n-----s, gypsies, and baboons" (Ch.17, p.570). During the elections of 1867, Andrew Johnson gets impeached for violating the Tenure of Office Act. There is a message by Johnson's head that says, "Treason is a crime...", which explains his impeachment. I see the chaos in all the images around Johnson, blacks being treated unfairly by following under Johnson's orders which the bottom image portrays. You see Johnson playing the instrument as a tied up black is wrapped up in a snake.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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Re: Reconstruction Cartoons #2

by Adrianna Rios Chinchilla-Ordoñez - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 12:27 AM

There are three men standing over what seems to be a black man, each with their foot on him as well. They all seem happy as the poor black man's expression shows suffering. From class, I know blacks were "freed", yet still were fighting for their right to vote. At first, I thought this image was portraying the little-by-little improvement blacks were moving towards getting more recognition as far as getting into office. As race and slavery during the Civil War took place, blacks were rising with getting more educated, and now being elected to state offices. This is what I got out of the "This is a white man's government" because it had always been all white men in power. Allowing the blacks to participate to vote seemed unfavorable so perhaps that's what the different kinds of people this cartoon is showing.

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1



A White Man's Government

by Benjamin Hawley-Gamer - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 12:07 PM

This cartoon goes along with the lecture this week about how North felt that the civil war was fought for nothing. You had the Confederate leadership taking part in the Northern government and the President doing nothing, and in a way supporting the former confederate states. The Picture depicts the Democrats, a former CSA Officer and what I believe is an Irishmen. All of these men are standing on the freedman, who appears to be a former union soldier as seen by his cap and what looks to be a uniform. This action of standing on the blackman is the idea that all of us are united as long as we are against the blackman, or supporting white men, this goes along with the Democratic party being "for the white man."

Sum of ratings:1 (1)

1



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Re:Johnson's Reconstruction

by Jack Swisher - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 6:36 PM

Cartoon number 3. I see a lot of violence going on in this cartoon. And it is all directed at black people. I mean Johnson was a racist, believed in a whites man government and promoted violence to militias on blacks. "Reports from the south told of neo-confederate violence against blacks and their white sympathizers." Page 566. Johnson seemed to encourage such activities by allowing the organization of white militia units. At first, Johnson was favored by the radical Republicans, "Johnson seemed to promise the type of reconstruction they favored, one that would deny political power to ex-confederates and would enfranchise blacks. But Johnson has a change of heart. He instead issues pardons to former confederates, brings slave owners back and said in a video, "Africans don't play a vision in Johnson's want for bringing the north and south whites together." I see why Mr. Escobar says that Johnson was the worst president ever. The image in the top left corner is an incident where white supremacists in New Orleans murdered 34 black people, and three white supporters. I think the cartoonist is trying to portray just how bad Johnson and his reconstruction plan really was.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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Interpreting Cartoon #2

by Nicholas Stevens - Saturday, March 3, 2018, 9:15 PM

The second cartoon is titled *This is A White Man's Government*. In the cartoon you can see three white men standing on top of a black man. The man on the left looks to be Irish based off of the stereotypes we learned from the videos and textbook. The Irish man is holding up a bat that says "A Vote" which I think to mean that, even though he's Irish, he's still white which means he deserves the right to vote. In the middle is a man that has on a belt that has the letter CSA on it, which shows that he supported the Confederate States of America. In the middle man's hand is a knife that says "The Lost Cause" on it, which is to mean the civil war. The man on the right looks to be a wealthier man. In the wealthy man's hand is a envelope that has a bunch of papers that says "Capital" and "Votes". The black man on the ground seems to be clutching the American flag which means they are stepping on the flag as well, which I think

is supposed to mean they are betraying their country or that it has no meaning. The black man is also reaching towards the voting box, which I think is the main point of this cartoon. The southern white men, along with others are mad that black men are being given the right to vote. The caption below solidifies this by saying, "'We regard the Reconstruction Acts (so called) of Congress as usurpatious, and unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void.' - Democratic Platform" They are calling out Congress for being unconstitutional for their Reconstruction Acts. Also in the background you can see there is chaos and burning buildings which is supposed to be because of Congress' Reconstruction Acts.

Sum of ratings:2 (1)

2



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