

Civil War Propaganda

Suzanna Edwards

Union soldiers in Andersonville prison / The rebel leader, Jeff Davis, at Fortress Monroe

By Thmas Nast; Philadelphia :
Published by King & Baird,
Printers, 1865.

This illustration depicts the difference in how prisoners of war are treated between the Union and the Confederacy. The top image is of the Union soldiers held in Andersonville and the bottom image is of Jeff Davis held in Fort Monroe. This can be a call to action to the Union to not give up and to not let the suffering to continue. I interpret as we don't need a new King, we need equality for all.



Pardon. Franchise Columbia. -- "Shall I trust these men, and not this man?"



By Thomas Nast
Published New York:Harper's
Magazine Co., August 5,
1865.

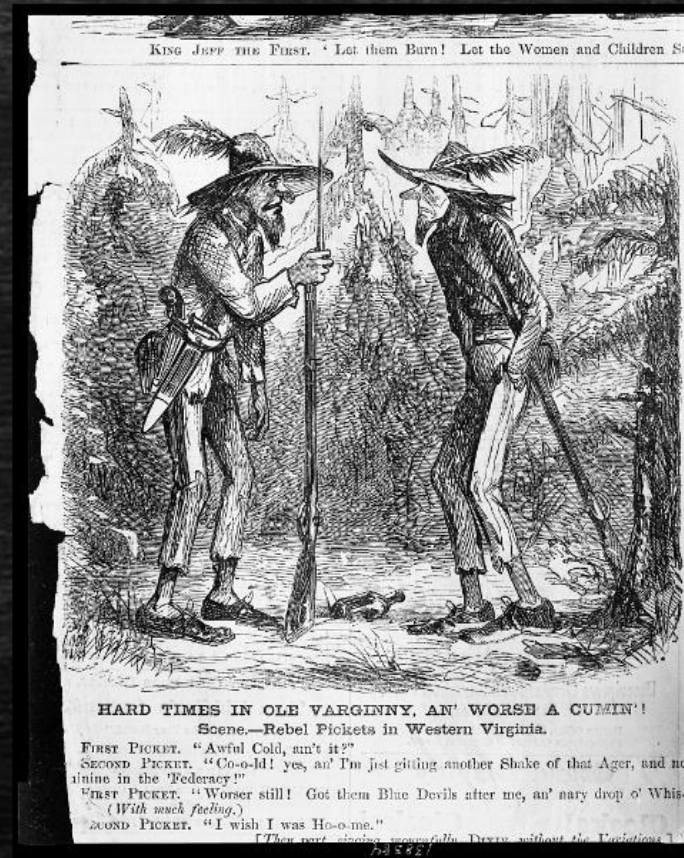
This illustration is depicting Columbia and the differences in whether the traitors of the South should be pardoned while a Union African American soldier still doesn't have the right to vote. Who is the actual patriot for our nation and who deserves more?

Hard times in Ole Varginny, an worse a cumin'! Scene--Rebel pickets in Western Virginia

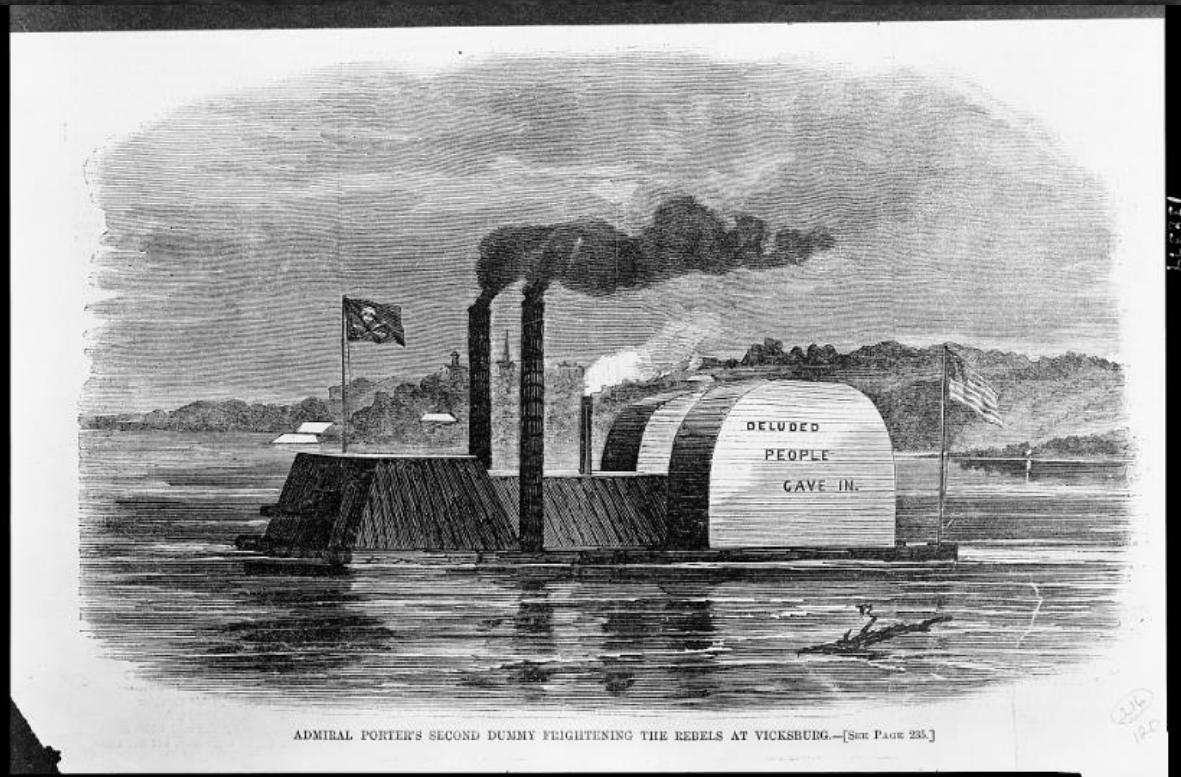
By John McLenan

Published Harper's weekly,
v. 6, no. 262 (1862
January 4), p. 16

This political cartoon depicts two Confederate soldiers in the winter in Virginia. Let's just say they were way out of their element in this. It can also be read as the Confederacy was made up of soldiers that were going to war and were not prepared for the battles.



Admiral Porter's second dummy frightening the Rebels at Vicksburg



Artist Unknown

Published Harper's
weekly, v. 7, no. 328
(1863 April 11), p. 236

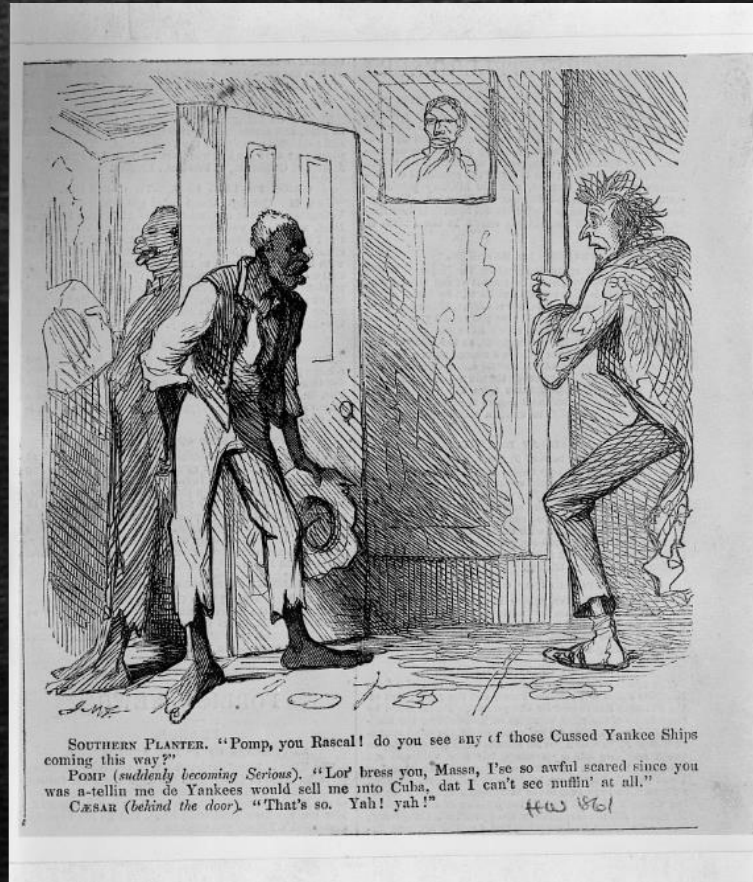
The Union's version of
the Trojan Horse. A
decoy used to get the
Confederates to shoot
and waste their
ammunition. I thought
this was funny. Plus
the text on the boat
seems to be a mockery
of the thinking of the
Confederacy.

Southern Planter: "Pomp, you Rascal! do you see any of those cursed Yankee ships coming this way?"

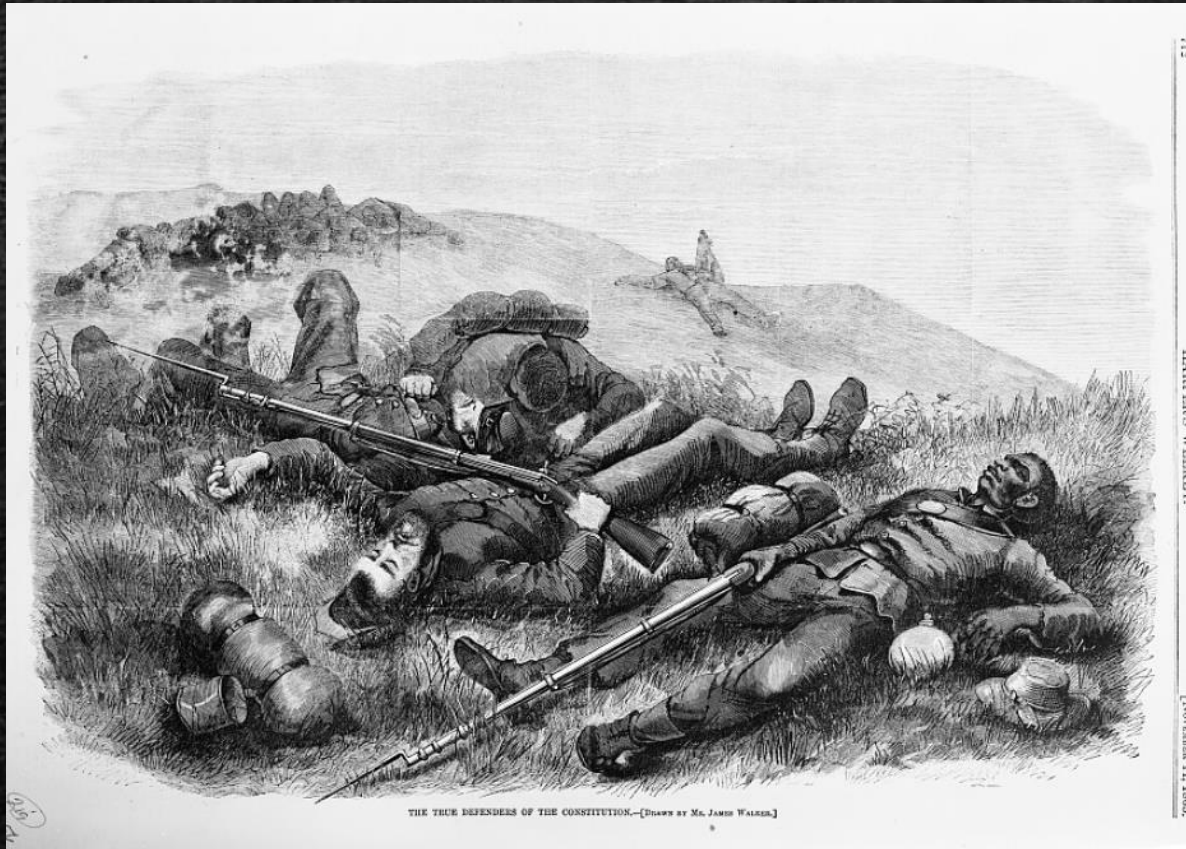
By J.M.?

Published Harper's Weekly,
1861

This political cartoon depicts a scared slave owner asking if the one of his slaves if he had seen any Union ships. You can see just how frazzled the slave owner is and how there is just no sympathy from the African American men. Then you have the man behind the door laughing at the lies being told about slaves being shipped off to Cuba by the Union was supposed to be "scary".



The true defenders of the Constitution



By James Walker

Published Harper's
weekly, v. 9, no. 463
(1865 November 11), p.
712.

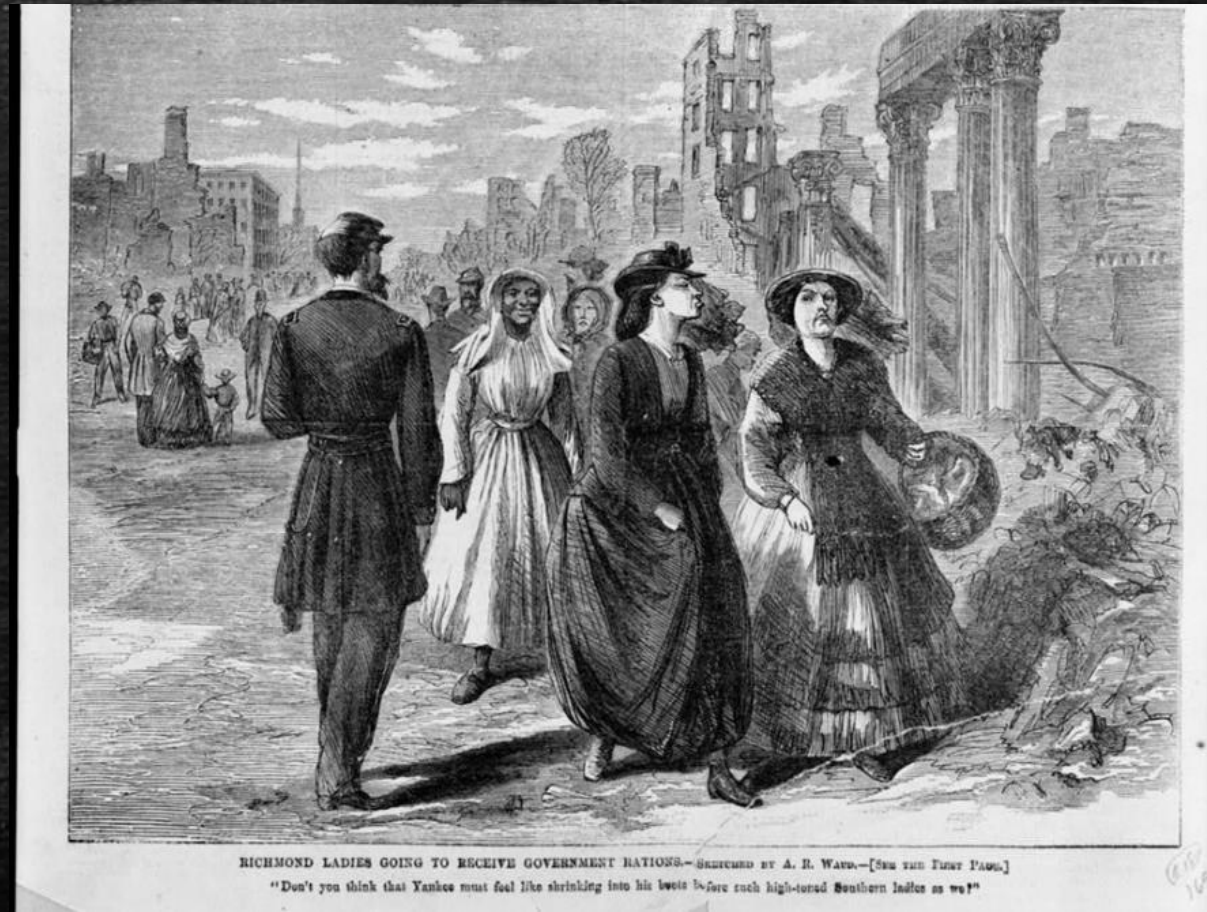
This illustration shows
both black and white Union
soliders dying for equal
rights. Both are equal.
Their deaths were equal.
Their cause was equality.

Richmond Ladies going to receive government rations

By Alfred Waud

Published Harper's weekly,
1865 June 3, p. 340.

This political cartoon shows stuck up Southern ladies still thinking they are above Northerners and African Americans while their city is in ruins. Pretty much still sums up some of the thinking some Southern still have.



Jeff Davis reaping the harvest

Artist Unknown

Published Harper's weekly,
1861 Oct. 26, p. 688.

Not going to sugar coat this one. It is creepy. This is an illustration depicting Jeff Davis reaping the rewards of his labor. There is a ton of symbolism in this piece. There is the noose in the background. The vulture on the tree. The snake in the brush. The skulls growing on the grass. The undead look of Jeff Davis. Everything just screams evil.

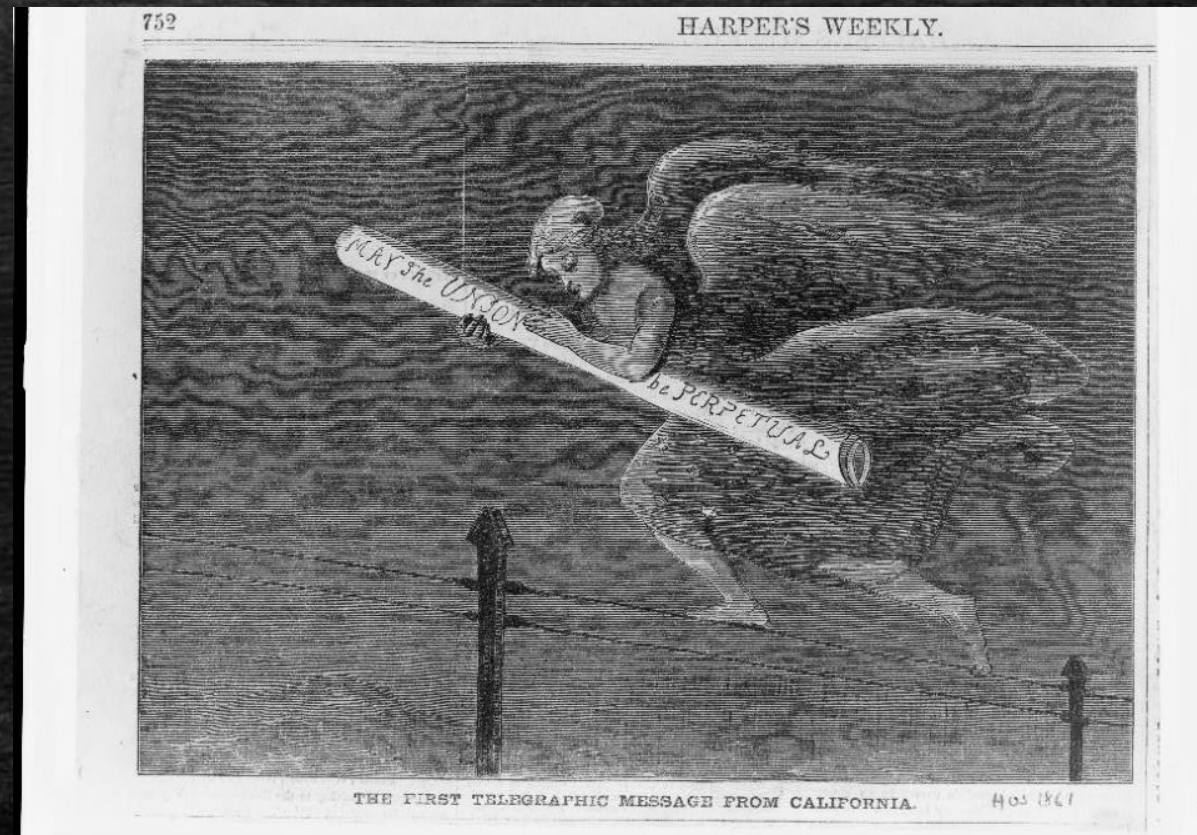


The first telegraphic message from California

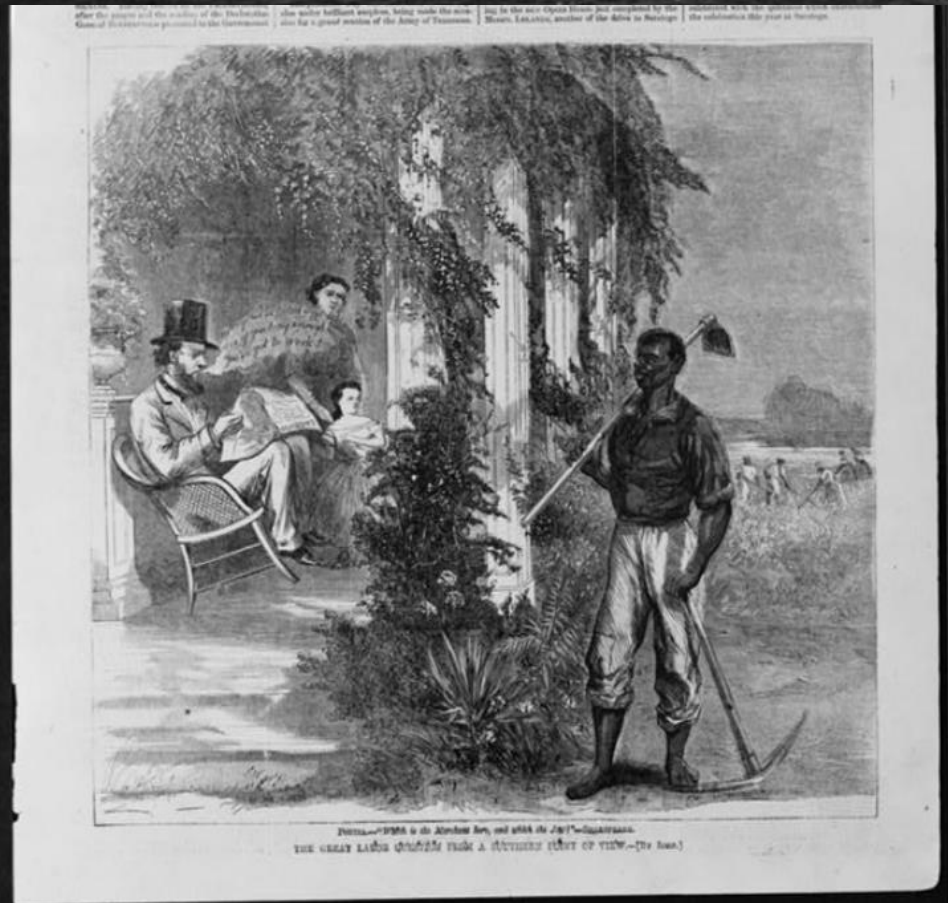
Artist Unknown

Published Harper's weekly, 1861, p. 752.

This illustration is representing the first telegraph being sent from California. Most people must have thought that this ability was an act of God, so depicting the technological advance as an Angel might have been to make it easier for the average person to understand. Plus you can also read it as God and His Angels are on the side of the Union.



The great Labor question from a Southern point of view



Artist Unknown

Published Harper's weekly,
1865 July 29, p. 465.

This illustration is depicting one of the Southern excuses to keep slaves. Basically the slave owner is saying "we housed, clothed, and fed you; now you need to work to repay our generosity". They are trying to say that they are just like any employer and treat their slaves like employees, but better.

A Negro regiment in action

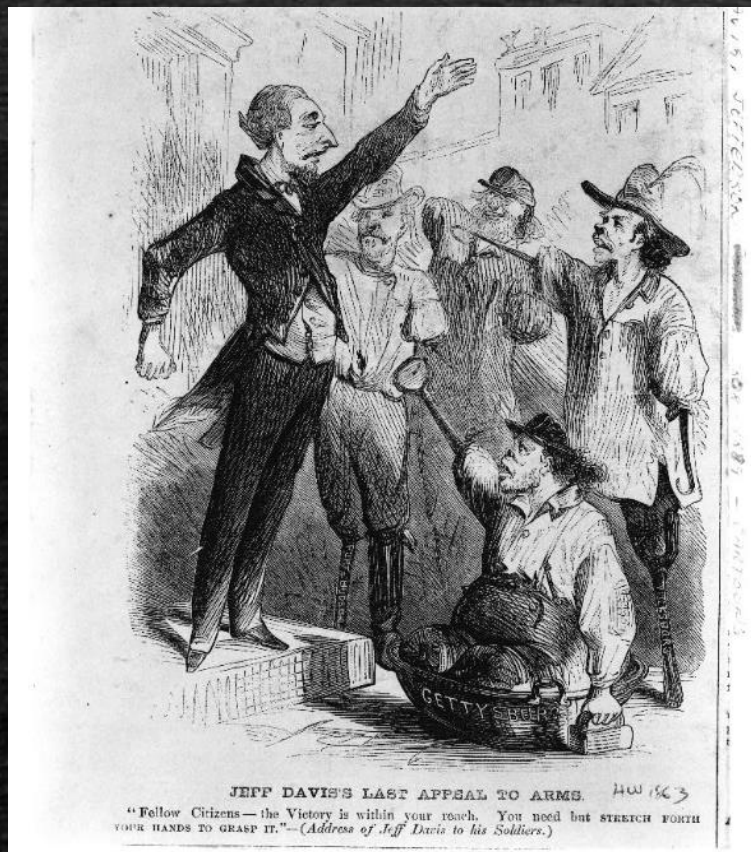
By Thomas Nast

Published Harper's
weekly, 1863 March 14,
pp. 168-169.

This illustration
depicts an African
American Regiment
during battle. Men
fighting for freedom
for all African
American people.



Jeff Davis's Last appeal to arms



Artist Unknown

Published Harper's Weekly,
1863.

This political cartoon portrays Jeff Davis trying to convince Southern soldiers to keep up the war for "their rights". But the joke is on him. If you look closely to the men that are depicted with missing limbs there are the names of the major battles that the Confederacy lost. Basically the South is falling apart, and Davis is trying to convince them that until they are all dead they need to fight.

Filling cartridges at the United States Arsenal at Watertown, Massachusetts

Artist Unknown

Published Harper's weekly, v. 5, 1861 July 20, p. 449 (cover)

This cover is depicting the other side of war. Women and young men were enlisted to make things needed for war. The upper half of the image is of women making the cartridges for the gun powder for the ammunition. The bottom half of the illustration is of young men finishing the process by filling the cartridges with the gun powder. It isn't just the soldiers going to war, it is the whole nation that goes to war in some form or another.



The surgeon at work at the rear during an engagement



THE SURGEON AT WORK AT THE REAR DURING AN ENGAGEMENT.—[See Page 40.]

By Winslow Homer

Published Harper's weekly, v. 6, 1862 July 12, p. 436

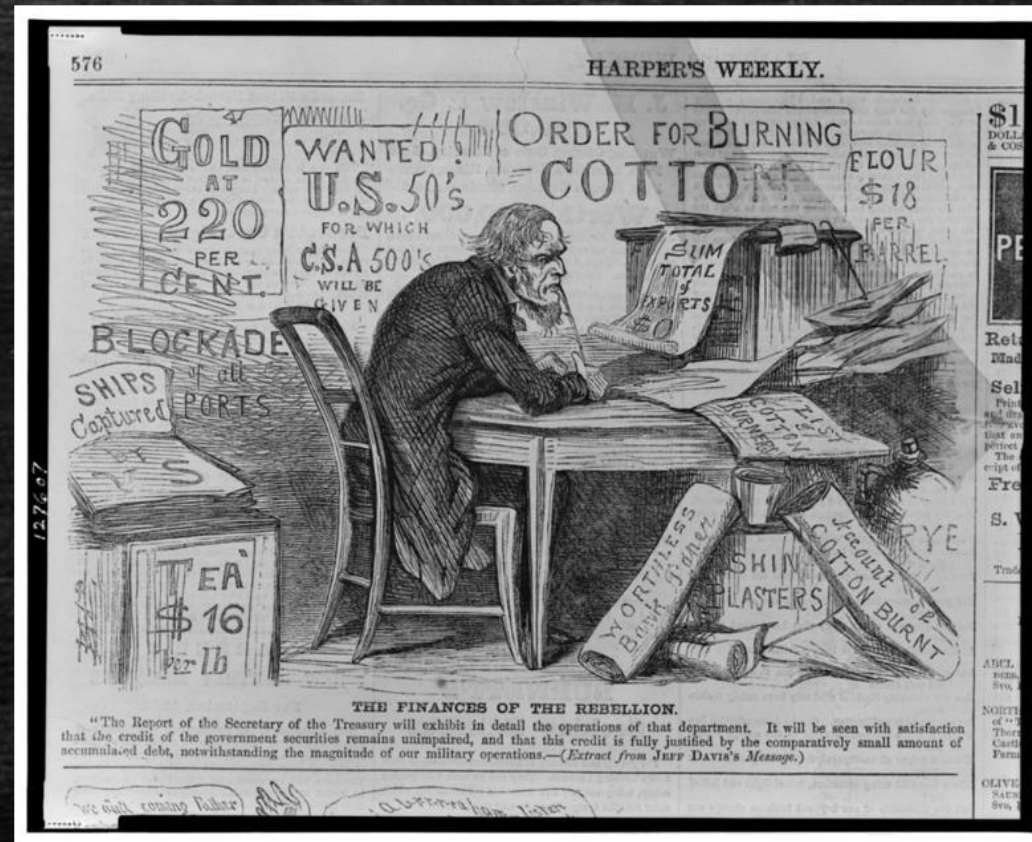
This illustration is of the wounded soldiers being treated by the army surgeons. The true mortality of man in one scene.

The finances of the rebellion

Artist Unknown (Possible initials ?H.E)

Published Harper's weekly, v. 6, no. 297 (1862 Sept. 6), p. 576.

There is some speculation if this is a caricature of Jefferson Davis or not. The political cartoon is portraying the amount of debt the Confederacy is amounting during the war. Like \$18 per barrel for flour!? With a quick calculation for inflation and it comes out to be \$304.71 in today's money. Speechless.



Bibliography

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