Thomas Nast Reconstruction Worksheet
Directions: Group one will complete questions regarding the cartoons 1 and 2 (Civil War). Group two will complete questions regarding cartoons 3 and 4 (Reconstruction). Group three will complete questions regarding cartoons 5, 6, and 7 (Political Campaigns). Remaining questions should be completed during class discussion.

1. In cartoons 1 and 2, compare and contrast how Nast depicts the North and South?

2. Who is cartoon 2 dedicated to? What is his significance?

3. In cartoon 2, how does Nast portray the behavior of women?

4. In cartoon 2, which picture do you feel is most inflammatory?

5. In cartoon 3, how does Nast believe the Democrats will receive enough votes to defeat the Reconstruction Acts?

6. Through what means does Nast believe Reconstruction should occur as represented in cartoon 4?

7. What is the significance of the figure restoring South Carolina to the Union in cartoon 4?

8. In cartoon 4, how does the figure’s demeanor reflect the significance of this process?

9. In cartoon 5, how does Nast portray Democratic presidential candidate Seymour?
10. Who was Columbia leading back into the Union in cartoon 5?

11. What does the phrase “bury the hatchet mean”? In cartoon 6 what principles is Columbia sprinkling on the grave of the war?

12. In cartoon 6, what does each of four of the dogs symbolize?

13. What is being dug up by the dogs in cartoon 6?

14. Who are the candidates running for executive office in 1872 in cartoon 7?

15. Based on cartoon 7, who do you believe Nast supports for the election?

16. Through his drawings, in what ways does Nast obviously show his opinions? What subtle ways?