



The Third Term Panic, from "Harper's Weekly"

Date
published November 7, 1874

Primary Maker
Thomas Nast

Medium
Wood engraving on newsprint

Description
Captioned "An ass, having put on the lion's skin, roamed about in the forest, and amused himself by frightening all the foolish animals he met with in his wandering" from "Shakespeare or Bacon" typeset beneath title in black ink. This is Nast's first use of an elephant to represent the Republican vote /Republican party. Illustration shows a braying ass in a lion's coat and "N.Y. Herald" collar frightening animals in the forest. A giraffe (N. Y. Tribune), a unicorn (N.Y. Times), and an owl (New York World) represent newspapers and an ostrich with it's head buried represents "Temperance." An elelphant, "The Republican Party," stands near broken planks (Inflation, Repudiation, Home Rule, and Re-construction) over a pit labeled "Southern Claimes. Chaos. Rum." A fox (Democratic Party) has it's forepaws on the plank "Reform. (Tammany. K.K.)" The title refers to U.S. Grant's possible bid for a third presidential term which was criticized by N.Y. Herald owner and editor James Gordon Bennett, Jr.

Dimensions
Composition: 8 13/16 × 13 1/2 in. (22.4 × 34.3 cm) Sheet: 10 3/8 × 15 5/16 in. (26.4 × 38.9 cm)