



Halt!, from "Harper's Weekly"

**Date**  
published October 17, 1874

**Primary Maker**  
Thomas Nast

**Medium**  
Wood engraving on newsprint

**Description**  
Captioned "This is not the way 'to repress corruption and to initiate the [Blacks] into the ways of honest and orderly government'" typeset beneath title in black ink. The aforementioned caption demonstrates the substitution of an obsolete term. "Throughout his career Nast was a strong advocate of liberty and Justice for all. Therefore he offered many pictures calling for justice, not only for blacks but for Native Americans and the Chinese too." (SOURCE: Jay Williams, "Thomas Nast: America in Black and White, 2002") "Nast depicts a female incarnation of Justice as a strong Warrior to juxtapose the injustices of the White Men's League. The paramilitary group enacted widespread violence against black and white Republicans in Louisiana and Mississippi between 1874 and 1875. Depicted wearing pointed 'hive hats', the southerners clutch muskets and stand over the dead body of an African American man. Justice swings the sword of Law into ranks of White Men's League. Her typical soft, womanly countenance and whimsically

flowing hair is replaced by restrained hair and more masculine, angular facial features to substantiate her active role. By illustrating the archetype of Columbia as a symbol of liberty against the White Men's League, Nast shifts perceptions through emotion and empathy to reflect a national problem." (SOURCE: Mary Bei Prince, "Thomas Nast's Conception of Nineteenth Century Women", 2019)

**Dimensions**  
Composition: 20 x 13 1/2 in. (50.8 x 34.3 cm) Sheet: 21 1/16 x 15 5/8 in. (53.5 x 39.7 cm)