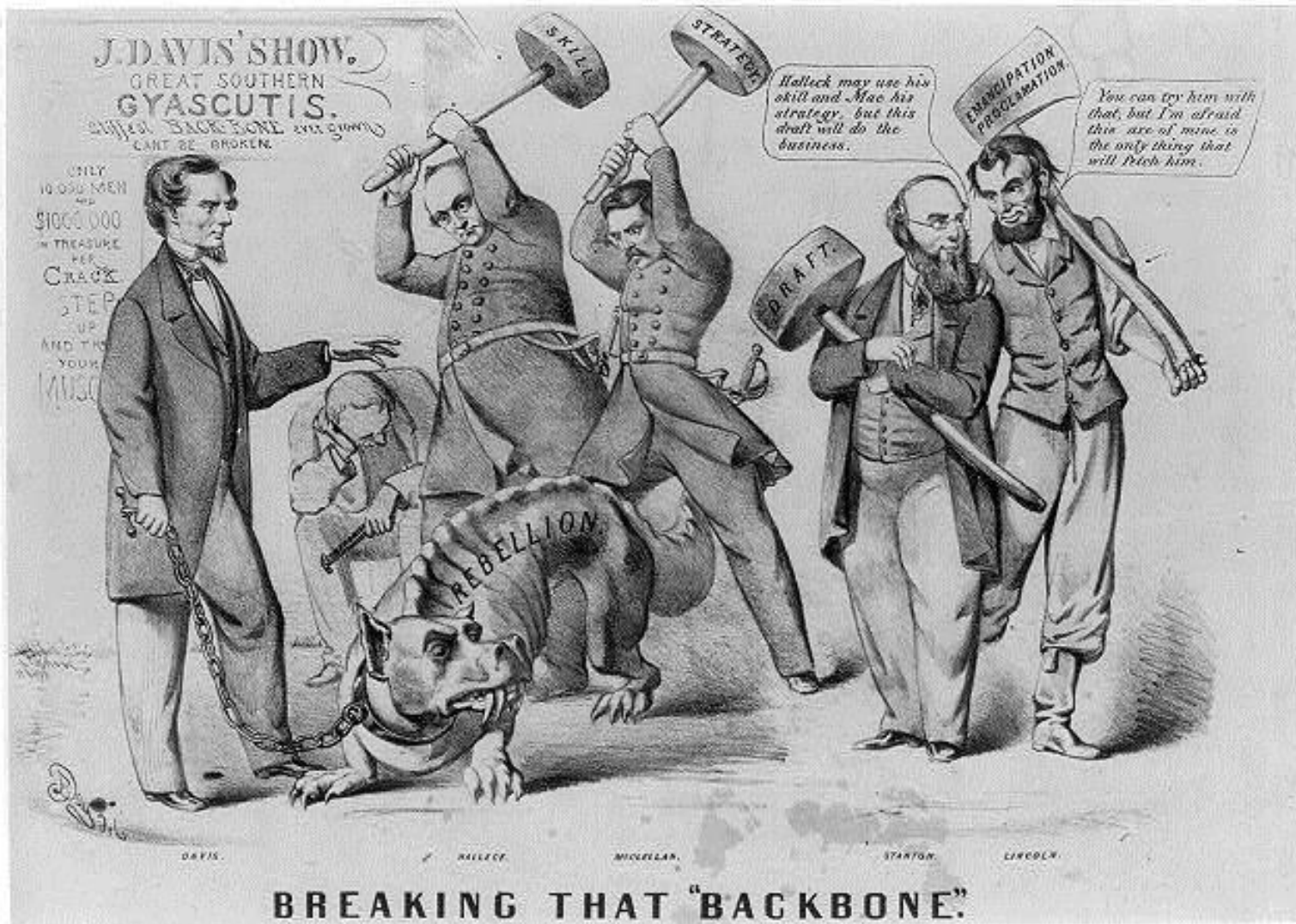


EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION cartoon



1. Describe how the Confederate States – the rebels – are being portrayed in this drawing.
2. Does the artist (Benjamin Henry Day) believe the current military strategy is working to defeat the South? Use evidence from the cartoon to explain why or why not.
3. According to the artist what might be the impact on the war of President Lincoln emancipating the slaves?

A figurative commentary on Northern efforts to end the rebellion during the early years of the Civil War. Confederate President Jefferson Davis (far left) displays "the Great Southern Gyascutis," a dog-like monster with long fangs and an enlarged spine, the "stiffest Back-Bone ever grown." The beast is labeled "Rebellion." Davis holds the animal on a chain as several figures prepare to attack it with large sledgehammers. From left to right, they are: Union generals Henry W. Halleck and George B. McClellan, who swing in unison hammers marked "Skill" and "Strategy," respectively; and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, who waits his turn holding a hammer labeled "Draft." On the far right waits President Lincoln, with the ax "Emancipation Proclamation" over his shoulder. Stanton: "Halleck may use his skill and Mac his strategy, but this draft will do the business." Lincoln: "You can try him with that, but I'm afraid this axe of mine is the only thing that will fetch him." At left, behind the group, sits a dejected, bespectacled man holding a tiny hammer labeled "Compromise." Further left, on a wall behind Jefferson Davis, hangs a poster saying "Only 10,000 men and \$1,000,000 in Treasure per Crack. Step up and Try your Muscle." Published. by Currier & Ives, Nassau St., N.Y. [1862 or 1863]