Created by: Amanda Mulbay, Spinning Hills Middle School

Grade level: 5

Primary Source: "Their Aim," cartoon by Thomas Nast in *Miss Columbia's Public School, or Will it Blow Over* by A. Cosmopolitan, 1871, Ohio Historical Society, PA Box 457, 25.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the cartoon one at a time while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

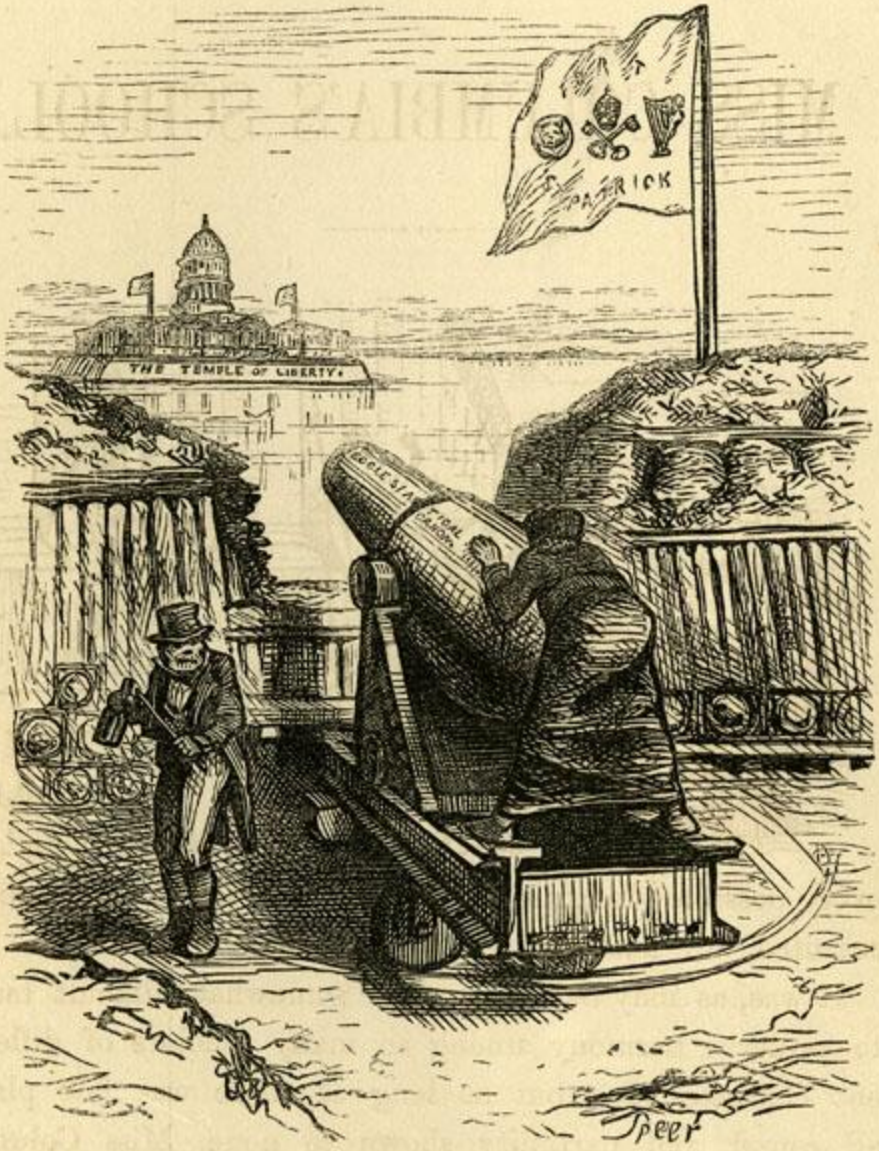
1. What type of primary source is this?
2. What is happening in the picture?
3. Is this picture a real event or fictional?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Who do you think the men in the picture are?
2. What are the men shooting the cannon at? What are the clues that support your answer?
3. Does this cartoon seem angry or happy? Why?

Level III: Analysis

1. What do you think the artist was really trying to say with this cartoon?
2. What was going on in America that this picture is giving an opinion of?



THEIR AIM.