

In-Archives Handout

by Athena Devlin



Part of an in-archives exercise at <http://www.teacharchives.org/exercises/civil-war-draft/>

Station 4: The Draft Riots

“Attention - Merchants, Clerks...,” 1863, 1975.386.1; Brooklyn Historical Society.

Your group has 25 minutes to examine the two documents closely and to discuss the following:

- What do you think a broadside is? Where do you think someone would have seen it?
- Can you locate the date on which this item was created? You should recognize this date from class lectures.
- What is the “present crisis” mentioned the broadside?
- Who are the “merchants, bankers, and merchants’ clerks?” What do you think their opinion of the draft would have been?
- What do you think will happen at the 2:00 meeting?
- What “immediate action” is proposed in the document?

Spend 5 minutes summarizing your findings. Be prepared to report back to the whole class.