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.