The Draft political cartoon, 1862

This cartoon clipping depicts men attempting to dodge the draft during the Civil War by escaping in hot air balloons. In the foreground, a balloon labeled "Leonidas," with men hanging off of the ropes and basket, hovers over the ground. On the ground, men pull on a rope attached to the balloon, perhaps trying to keep it from taking off. One man does a handstand. In the background, a crowd of townspeople watches. More balloons can be seen flying in the distance. The caption reads: "All other Methods of evading the Draft having failed, the above Disgraceful Scheme is to be attempted on the 10th." It is unclear whether this cartoon references a specific event of November 10, 1862 (the cartoon was published in the November 8, 1862, issue of Harper's Weekly), or what the significance of the name "Leonidas" is.
DIMENSIONS:
Width: 14 cm, Height: 19 cm

PUBLISHER:
Historical Society of Pennsylvania

ARTIST:
Unknown Artist; Moloshok, Rachel; Moloshok, Rachel; Historical Society of Pennsylvania; Harper & Brothers