Election of 1896

Compare and contrast the competing images of the Election of 1896 below. Remember to “SOAP” (source, occasion, audience, purpose) each visual document.

What can historians learn about different perceptions of William Jennings Bryan and the Populist platform by examining these documents?

NB: Viewing these documents online in high resolution may result in clearer images / more constructive historical interpretation!

“The Sacrilegious Candidate”
Cartoon by Grant Hamilton, printed in “Judge” Magazine, 1896.
Available at: http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/ppmsca.15773/
“16 to 1... The Speech that Won the Convention... at the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, 1896”

Lithograph by The Henderson Lith. Co., c1896.
Available at: http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/pga.03796/