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HARRY FURNISS' IMPRESSIONS OF LIFE ON THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Pictorial Notes of a Busy Day in the Wheat Pit Made by the English Caricaturist During His Visit to Chicago.

HARRY FURNISS, perhaps the most famous of modern English cartoonists, has completed his visit to America, and shaking the dust of the United States from his "boots," has departed for Australia.

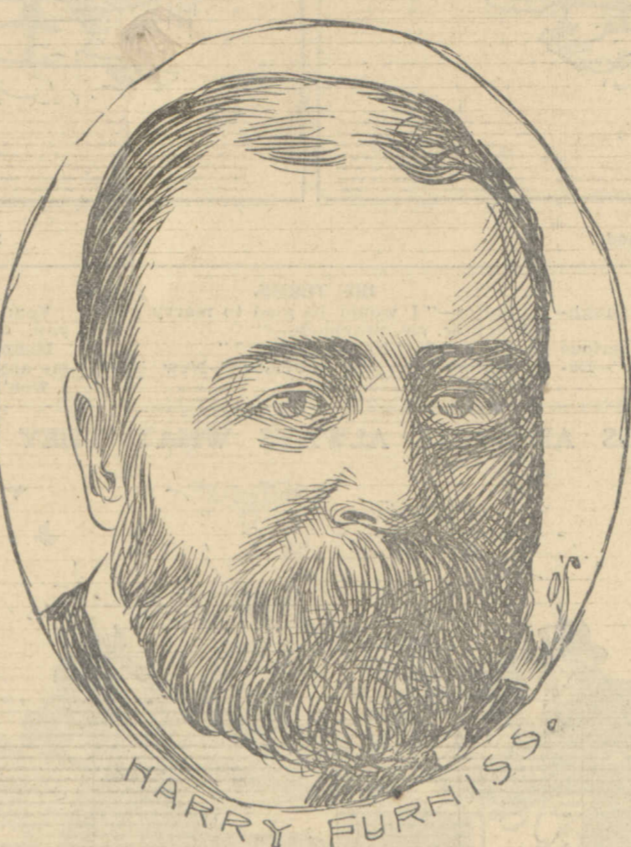
But his visit has borne fruit in the form of a large number of pictures of American people and American places—caricatures mostly, as nearly all Furniss' pictures are, but interesting and amusing even to those caricatured.

Chicago, though not visited on this, Mr. Furniss' second, trip to the United States, has come in for a share of his favors, the Board of Trade and the Stock-Exchange, two of the liveliest places of the city, being selected by the caricaturist as fit subjects for his pencil. These pictures THE SUNDAY TRIBUNE has secured.

It is a feature of Mr. Furniss' work that it is free from any malicious quality. He picks out weak spots in his subject, but he does it so that it does not hurt. His caricatures of things American are such that Americans themselves can laugh at them. His treatment of his subjects is keen and clear-sighted, and his pictures, whether they deal with American politics, business, or society, show a sharp appreciation of many characteristics which commonly escape the foreign observer.

In political caricatures and cartoons he is at his strongest, and in this line his name has been made. For many years a large part of the English people looked to Du Maurier for the pictured humor of the social side of life and to Furniss for the political side. His pictures in Punch and other periodicals have rung the changes of the political situation in a hundred different keys, and have had a considerable effect, not perhaps on politics itself, but upon the way the great mass of the people regarded it.

There is no doubt that a great many persons in England still believe Lord Randolph Churchill at the time he entered upon his important part in English politics to



have been a small, slight man. Not that he was small and slight, but because Furniss in representing him as a schoolboy among the Lords found it convenient to make him so. And the Gladstone collar, now a distinctive mark in pictures of the statesman, was never worn by Gladstone until after Furniss had made it familiar to all England in his pictures of the "Grand Old Man."

Mr. Furniss is still young—43 last March—but considerably more than half his life has been passed in the work he has found his calling. He was born in Ireland, of English parents. In the training of his father, an engineer, he probably found little to turn him toward art, but his mother, a daughter of Eneas McKenzie, an author and publisher, as well as politician, may have had some influence on his taste. At any rate, his taste for drawing made an early appearance. Indeed, Mr. Furniss himself cannot say how far back his first efforts should be dated—certainly well back into his school-boy days, for at the age of 14 he was editor, artist, and business manager of a school paper on the lines of Punch and called by the same name. The later years of his education were passed at Dublin, and here he began drawing for more pretentious periodicals. When 19 years old he went to London, and since that time has been constantly engaged in illustration.

For many years Mr. Furniss was a regular contributor to the Illustrated London News, turning his attention chiefly to picturing the lighter side of life, but with frequent departures into more serious things, as in the winter of 1878 when he made a sketching tour through the distressed parts of England. In 1880 his first picture appeared in Punch, the regular staff of which he joined four years later. In Punch his talent for picturing political matters had full play, and his parliamentary scenes and sketches of members attracted great attention. With a few exceptions these pictures were drawn direct in the House and touched up later in the studio. During the ten years following his first appearance in Punch he contributed to nearly all the prominent London periodicals.

In 1890 Mr. Furniss was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Journalists and a year later gave a series of lectures on the manners and men of the House of Commons. He severed his connection with Punch in 1894, and since then has been engaged upon work of his own.

