

OUR CURBSTONE
OBSERVER.

On Irish Comedians

wisdom and experience. Al-
leader of healthy literary
has now attained a posi-
to no other in this coun-
itorials are vigorous, and
the most graceful lang-
news items are always
and interesting; and the
perfection has now been
the publication of the
ry, "The Wonderful Flow-
ndon." And, furthermore,
d contributors are deserv-
cial praise. The Curbs-
s observations are gener-
point, striking home so
in some cases, that it is
believe his remarks are
clusively to Montreal.
ave that scholarly writer,
with many "regu-
occasional" contributors
m are pre-eminently liter-
of unusual skill. By the
has become of the "Veter-
er?" His reminiscences of
n he saw and heard are
e most exquisite word-
of our language.

JAMES TRAINOR.

From the Capital.

hall of the Knights of
Ottawa, was the scene of
action on Monday evening.
ported in the column
the Marchioness," of the
of that city, and from
take the liberty of clip-
following paragraphs:—"In
reception room of the
rs. M. J. Gorman, and
ford, whose husbands are
Deputy Grand Knight and
received the guests. Both
black gowns, Mrs. Gor-
of voile trimmed with
applique, and Mrs. Latch-
black net over silk with a
and sleeves. A few ladies
gowns, but the greater
e pretty afternoon dresses
terial. The handsome lec-
or place of meeting on the
was the scene of a very
e. There were card rooms
floor, where those who
re for the mazy dance
wise amuse themselves,
wing alley in the base-
erately festooned with
anners, made a supper
refreshments were served
and supper about half
The large billiard room,
bowling alley, was fitted
ssing room for the ladies.
This 'at home' were all
Columns, and all except
ing Knights from Mont-
Ottawa. Each Knight had
awa. Each Knight had
e of inviting two ladies.
en on the Reception Com-
ing whom were Dr. Mc-
M. J. Gorman, Doctor
d several other well
e, were most energetic in
to make the evening
everyone, and from all
t certainly was that."
P. Dunne, wife of the
ht, and Mrs. J. J. He-
of the Deputy Grand
e prevented by illness
present.

DO
YOU
WANT
A
RELIABLE
CLERK?DO
YOU
WANT
DOMESTIC
HELP?ADVERTISE
IN
THE
TRUE WITNESS.TEN
CENTS
FOR
15
WORDS.

not the end. The crown
immortal glory which
faithful then, awaits the
t, and shall surely be at-
all who love His appear-

MR. KEATING'S VIEW.—The ar-
ticle then quoted from Mr. John
T. Keating, President of the A.O.H.,
who speaks to the Chicago "Tri-
bune" on the subject. It would seem
to us that Mr. Keating's remark
should, of itself, suffice to check the
flow of illogical and undignified
comments of the "Sun," for what Mr.
Keating said was this:—

"We do not object to our people be-
ing shown on the stage, but we do
object to those things which they call
'Irish comedians,' which are dressed
as no Irishman ever dressed and are
painted up so that they look far
more like monkeys than men."

Mr. Keating has expressed in a few
words exactly what I had wished to
convey in my account of the lecture
above mentioned. It seems to me so
reasonable, what he has said, that I
cannot understand how it is not un-
derstood. But it has not been un-
derstood, and here is the comment
that follows the remark:—

"So Mr. Keating and his associates
are really engaged or about to en-
gage in an effort to reform the var-
iety stage and to substitute deli-
cacy and distinction for broad,
rough caricature. But the people
who crowd the variety theatres
would have a word to say about
that if the managers had any notion
of refining the prevailing style of
comic Irishman."

"IS IT POSSIBLE?"—In a French
-drama of the eighteenth century, a

certain individual finds a solution to
every problem and situation, by ask-
ing "Is it possible?" I cannot re-
frain from asking myself if it is pos-
sible that a public journal can have
the unblinking audacity to oppose
the "reform of the variety stage"
and the substituting of "delicacy and
distinction (meaning decency) for
broad, rough caricature?" The crowd
that throngs the variety theatre
must have its say. I will not deal
with the question of the managers—
their pecuniary interests preclude
them from the possibility of any
other considerations actuating them.
So Mr. Keating and the Hibernians
are to be lowered to the level of the
variety stage advocates and placed
on a par with the crowd of sensa-
tion-seeking, giddy, thoughtless, sec-
tion of the population who are hun-
gry to glut their unnatural appetite
for the debasing, the rough, and in-
cidentally the immoral. It would,
therefore, seem that the "Sun" is
opposed to reformation in the variety
stage which is the doom, physical,
mental and spiritual of a vast pro-
portion of our rising generation.
English does not contain language
sufficiently strong and emphatic to
condemn such principles, nor to ex-
pose, in all its hideousness, the moral
menace hidden beneath the open
declaration just quoted.

SOMETHING STILL WORSE.

"There is something the matter with
the heart or the liver of the man
who goes to a variety show and es-
capes the contagion of the laughter
that roars around him. He is a man
to be pitied. Something is wrong
with him. Often there is but too
much reason to suspect that he is an
ass. He should go to the theatre
with an open mind. He should feel
reviving in him a fresh boyish de-
light in the glories of the show. He
is not there to criticize, but to en-
joy. He is in a magic world where
transformations are the rule and the
extraordinary is natural. Let him
take the people in that world as he
finds them and make no kick. Grant
that no such Yankees, no such Irish-
men, no such Germans, no such Jews,
no such negroes were ever seen in
the world outside. He has paid his
money to get away from that for an
hour or two. The farther away he
gets, the better for him."

If anything this is still worse. In
the first place the man has no busi-
ness to go there, nor to pay his mo-
ney for that which is admitted to be
unreal. If it were only the lack of
reality in what he sees and hears
that was in question there would be
no objection. The same would apply
to any of Shakespeare's plays, or to
any other high drama. But he comes
away, unfortunately, and carries in-
to real life the falseness that he has
seen and heard in the variety show.
He goes forth into actual life with
the evil effects of his day-dream of
an hour upon him. He comes out
prepared and anxious to carry into
actual practice that which he beheld
on the stage. He goes home with
heart bounding to emulate the pas-
sions that he has seen exemplified
before his eyes, to perpetrate in pri-
vate life that which the actor perpe-
trated in mockery, to treat the Yan-
kee, the German, the Irishman, the
Englishman, the negro, and the man
of any other race, just as he were
exactly what the variety actor had
depicted him to be. The boy commits
suicide, or goes on the highway to
rob, as an effect of reading dime no-
vels; the man, and more so the wo-
man, who frequents the variety show,
has passions stirred into flame that
are destined to consume body and
soul. And it is in the name of and
for the benefit of this throng of mis-
guided people that the "Sun" would
have the Hibernians sacrifice their
national pride and ignore their duty
to their race!

ONE MORE BLUNDER.—I am not
going to follow the writer of the
editorial in question through all his
vagaries, as foolish and as poorly
strung together as are the parts in a
variety show, nor will I ask space
for the reproduction of such a series
of insults both to the Irish people,
and to the Christian sentiment of
the community. But I will have to
quote one more passage, which runs
thus:—

"The variety stage can't get along
without the Irish comedian. In spite
of the highly accented costumes and
'make-up' of some of them, as a
class they earn their money and give
good hearty amusement in return.

Almost all of them are of Irish
birth or descent. Something of wit,
humor, lightheartedness and devil-
maycareness comes naturally to the
very worst of them. Whether they
cut their brogue thick or thin, it is
a good relish for their performance.
They pick up stories not all of which
are old, and tell them with grace
for the most part. They have a few
which it seems impossible to restrain
from jigs. They have the gift of
blarney and make friends of the au-
dience at once. It would be invidi-
ous to mention any of the admirable
artists in the comic Irish line whom
everybody who is not too haughty to
be familiar with the variety stage
must recall with pleasure. It is
enough to say that take the whole
batch of them, good, bad, and indif-
ferent, they are clever folks and
know how to tickle the public; and
part of it is more thoroughly tickled
than the persons of Irish origin are."

Now, this, to my mind, is worse
than all the rest. If the variety
stage cannot get along without the
Irish comedian, such as he appears
thereon, then we can say frankly
"let the variety stage go." It is not
an essential, far from me, in the so-
cial organism of our day. If the re-
spect due to a race, if the sentiments
of a people depend upon the exist-
ence or non-existence of the variety
stage, then let the variety stage van-
ish and the world will be the better,
the purer, the nobler for it. If "al-
most all of them are of Irish birth
or descent" we can only regret the
fact, and the sooner such anti-Irish
Irishmen are prevented from injur-
ing the reputation of their fellow-coun-
trymen and lowering their race, in
an undeserved manner, in the eyes of
the world, the better for all human-
ity and for the Irish in particular.
The crowd that demands the variety
stage and that frequents the theatres
of that calibre, and the members of
which are evidently the "Sun's" cli-
ents, would be the better off if this
great temptation, this source of moral
degeneration were ushered into
nonentity. At all events, the very
article I have thus quoted from is
one of the finest—though uninten-
tional—tributes that could be paid
to the patriotism and honorable
spirit of the Hibernians, and it is
well that they are animated with the
courage of their principles and con-
victions, for their good work will
yet find its own reward.

BRIGHT BABIES

Are a Joy to Mothers and a Treas-
ure in the House.

All babies should be bright, good
natured and well. If you have a
child that is sickly, fretful, nervous,
restless at night, or suffers from
stomach or bowel troubles of any
sort, gave it Baby's Own Tablets
and it will soon be well. There is
no other medicine in the world will
so safely and speedily cure indiges-
tion, diarrhoea, and teething trou-
bles. Thousands of grateful mothers
speak of this medicine in words of
warmest praise. Mrs. Fred Power,
18 Scollard street, Toronto, says:—
"My baby suffered greatly from in-
digestion. She was pale and very
thin and would cry with pain in the
stomach, and sometimes would not
sleep either day or night. I got a
box of Baby's Own Tablets and they
have made a great change in my lit-
tle one. She now digests her food
readily; is not troubled with the
pain in the stomach, and has grown
quite plump. I do not know of any
medicine that can equal Baby's Own
Tablets for little ones."

This medicine is guaranteed to con-
tain neither opiate nor other harm-
ful drugs. Children take the tablets
as readily as candy and crushed to a
powder they can be given to the
smallest, weakest baby. Sold at all
drug stores, or sent postpaid at 25c.
a box by addressing the Dr. Wil-
liams' Medicine Co., Brockville,
Ont., or Schenectady, N.Y.

City Destroyed
By Earthquake

Following up the terrible catas-
trophe in the West Indies now comes
a report by way of San Francisco,
Cal., through advices brought by the
steamer City of Para, that in ninety
seconds a thousand persons were kil-
led and more than four thousand
were crippled in Guatemala, and
nearly all of Quetzaltenango's forty
thousand residents were left home-
less by the earthquake on the night
of April 18.

Only fragmentary accounts of the
disaster had been received up to the
present time owing to the interrupt-
ed telegraphic communication. But
there arrived on the City of Para a
man who was in Guatemala at the

time of the disturbance. His coffee
plantation is only a few miles out
from Quetzaltenango. In speaking of
the earthquake he said:—

"The great disturbance took place
about a quarter after eight o'clock
in the evening. I was out on open
ground at the time, and had great
difficulty in keeping my feet. The
motion resembled nothing so much
as standing in a small boat that is
being rocked by the waves. I saw
the ground rise and fall with wave
like motion, and everywhere the
earth was splitting and cracking."

"Crevasse fully three feet across
appeared. The greatest damage was
at Quetzaltenango, and the city was
practically destroyed. All the build-
ings that were left standing are
cracked and they will have to be
pulled down."

"My brother had just completed a
business block at a cost of \$300,000,
and it is a total ruin. Many others
suffered in a similar manner, and in
addition suffered a greater loss."

"There were three distinct shocks,
each more severe than the one pre-
ceding, but the damage was all done
within a minute and a half. Among
the wealthier class the loss of life
was comparatively slight, probably
less than one hundred, though many
were injured."

"Those who fled from their houses
into the patios or courts fared the
best, though even many who ran in-
to the street were either killed or
suffered broken limbs. The streets
are not half the width of the resi-
dence streets of San Francisco, so
that escape from a falling building
was impossible."

"The loss of life was greatest in
the quarter occupied by the Indians,
or natives. They are accustomed to
retire early, and nearly all were
asleep when the disturbances came.
Their houses are built of adobe, and
when they collapsed entire families
were buried in the ruins. It is prac-
tically impossible to give a strictly
accurate estimate of the dead."

"That night the entire population
of the city camped out on a plain in
the suburbs. The night was cold,
and many of the women and chil-
dren suffered severely."

"To add to the horror of the situ-
ation on overturned lamps and can-
dles set fire to some of the build-
ings. Many persons suffered much
from thirst, owing to the fact that
the water mains were broken. For
five days the residents drank only
the water that remained in the foun-
tains and the rainwater they could
catch in basins."

"The surrounding towns of San
Pedro, San Marco, San Juan Amiti-
tlan and Solola were also destroyed.
The total dead will number nearly
one thousand."

"Before I left it was given out
that no attempt would be made to
rebuild the city of Quetzaltenango on
its present site, but a new town of
that name will arise on the plain of
Olintepeque, three miles north. The
present site of Quetzaltenango is in a
valley, which is about five or six
miles across, and there is a grave
fear that it is really the crater of
an ancient volcano."

"This impression is created by the
fact that the city lies almost in the
shadow of the volcano Corraquemada,
that is known to have been in a
state of eruption about one hundred
years ago."

"Quetzaltenango was a ghastly
sight the day following the earth-
quake. Bodies were lying everywhere
in the streets and in the ruins."

LATE MISS KATIE McARAN.

This week it is our sad duty to
record the death of one of the young
hopes of our Irish Catholic commu-
nity. In the premature departure of
Catherine Monica (Katie) Mcaran, a
family of loving relatives has been
sorely bereaved, and the good Sis-
ters of the Congregation de Notre
Dame have lost one of their bright-
est and most lovable pupils. On
Thursday, 22nd May, at the early
age of sixteen years and eleven days,
this bright young girl gave up her
pure soul, and succumbed to an ill-
ness that had only commenced in the
first week of March. She died at her
parents' residence, the home of Mr.
and Mrs. James Mcaran; and on Sat-
urday, May 24th, the largely-attend-
ed funeral took place. The interment
was in the Catholic cemetery of Cote
des Neiges. The deceased was a pup-
il of St. Patrick's Academy. She
last attended school on the 7th of
March. The parents of the departed
pupil feel exceedingly grateful to the
Sisters of the Congregation de Notre
Dame, and to the young pupils of
the Academy—their daughter's fond
companions—for all the deep interest
they manifested in her welfare dur-
ing her illness, and for the kindly
visits paid to her during those last
weeks of life. Their presence and their
prayers were a source of great com-
fort and consolation, both to the dy-
ing child and to her bereaved par-

ents. She died in May; the month
of Mary. She so loved the Holy
Mother of God that it seems only
natural that the Blessed Mother
should have comforted her at that
special period of the year. We ex-
tend our sympathy to her sorrowing
relatives and join in their fervent
prayers for the repose of her soul.

How Protestant Colleges

Secure Donations.

Under the caption "Ready Wit,
Ready Money," the Philadelphia
"Times" relates this incident:—
The University of Pennsylvania has
not a large endowment, and that it
finds the means to pay its current
expenses and put up new buildings is
due in great measure to its provost,
Charles C. Harrison. His little black
subscription book is well known in
many a downtown office—too well
known, a prominent broker told him
not long ago. Mr. Harrison was
pleading persistently with him for a
subscription, but in vain. Finally the
broker said:

"See here, Mr. Harrison, I will
give you something on one condi-
tion."

"Very well, Mr. T—," said the
provost, "name it."

"The condition is that you pro-
mise never to come into my office
again until I ask you to do so."

"Certainly, Mr. T—, I agree to
that," said the provost promptly,
and walked out smiling with a check
for \$1,000.

A month or so later the broker
heard a knock at his door. "Come
in," he called, and in walked Mr.
Harrison. He had the black book
under his arm.

"Good morning, Mr. T—," he
said; "I want you to help me with
a little university matter I am—"

"Look here, Mr. Harrison," the
broker continued, "when I gave that
last thousand dollars, wasn't it on
the express condition that you
wouldn't come into my office again
until I invited you?"

"Why, yes," returned the provost,
"I believe that was the understand-
ing. But didn't you say 'Come in'
just now when I knocked?"

"They say the check this time was
for five thousand."

Various Notes.

BURNING ALCOHOL.—The French
Minister of Agriculture is doing
everything possible to boom the
movement to substitute native alco-
hol for American petroleum. After
patronizing alcoholic motor and au-
tomobile races he has organized an
international exhibition of alcohol
power machinery, such as engines for
motors, lighting and heating appar-
atus, which opened in the Gallerie
des Machines, Paris, the other day.
The immense salle des fetes is now
entirely illuminated by alcoholic
lamps.

HANDBALL CHAMPIONS.—Oliver
Drew, the handball champion of
Great Britain and Ireland, won the
first series of a match for a purse
of \$250, and the world's champion-
ship with Mike Egan, the American
champion, on May 22, in the Jersey
City Handball Court, beating his

opponent four sets to three.

The game was one of the prettiest
exhibitions of its kind ever seen in
this country. Egan started off well
and captured the first two sets. Af-
ter the Irish champion got warmed
up he made some remarkable stops
and succeeded in adding three
straight sets to his credit. Egan won
the sixth, and the final set was cap-
tured by Drew with 21 to 13.

Drew's strong point was his puz-
zling service, and being a left-handed
player, his tactics had the American
all at sea. The concluding eight
games of the series which are to
take place in the same court on Deco-
ration Day, May 30, will attract
widespread interest.

CHICAGO'S RAIN STORM.—Dama-
ge that will probably amount to
hundreds of thousands of dollars was
done in Chicago on Saturday even-
ing by a cloudburst. It flooded base-
ments, stopped many power plants,
put out electric lights and caused
many restaurants to close. The fall
of water was something unprecedented
in the records of the weather of-
fice.

MORE WAGES.—Money is king
with a large class at present. The
John A. Roebeling Company, of Tren-
ton, N.J., has announced a volun-
tary increase in the wages of its
employees averaging nearly 10 per
cent. President Charles G. Roebeling
said the increase was given on ac-
count of the higher prices of all ar-
ticles. He thought it fair that the
wage-earners should receive a corre-
sponding increase.

ANOTHER CANDIDATE.—The
Chicago daily press mentions the
name of Archbishop Ireland for the
vacant See of New York.

THE DOCTORS' FEE.—By a legal
decision the Paris courts have just
settled that 10f. (\$2) is an ordinary
fee for the visit of a doctor in
Paris.

A man and his wife called in a doc-
tore's, whose bill was afterward
made out at a rate of 20f. (\$4) for
the first visit and 10f. (\$2) for the
others.

A lawsuit followed and the court
gave judgment in favor of the pa-
tients, saying that 10f. (\$2) is the
customary fee in Paris for people in
medium station of life.

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You can make your har-
ness as soft as a glove
and as tough as wire by
using EUREKA HAR-
NESS OIL. You can
lengthen its life—make it
last twice as long as it
ordinarily would.

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Harness Oil**

makes a poor looking har-
ness like new. Made of
pure, heavy bodied oil, es-
pecially prepared to with-
stand the weather.

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in cans—all sizes.

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Camping and Yachting Season of 1902.

We are daily filling orders for the various Salmon and Trout Streams,
and respectfully urge upon intending purchasers the advisability of handing
us in their lists at the earliest possible moment.

Everything of the very best at reasonable prices.
Careful and experienced packers.

"THE KING OF BOTTLED BEERS,"

THE ORIGINAL BUDWEISER

BREWED AND BOTTLED BY

THE ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING ASSOCIATION,
SAINT LOUIS, MO.

\$1.60 per dozen pints. \$14.75 per cask of 10 dozen pints.

The Western Meat Preserving Co.'s Australian
BOILED RABBITS, PLAIN.A perfect delicacy. Tender as chicken. 10 cases, each 4 dozen 2 lb. tins
BOILED RABBITS, just received, 30 cents per tin,
\$3.25 per dozen tins.BY EXPRESS THIS MORNING, 10 CASES, EACH 64,
CHOICE FLORIDA GRAPE FRUIT.The last of the season, "Florida Shaddocks," the Golden Eagle Brand,
25 cents per shaddock, \$2.75 per dozen, \$13.75 per
case of 64 shaddocks.FRASER, VIGER & CO.,
ITALIAN WAREHOUSE.