

(You may not know the present great cathedral there is the third of that name.) It was, too, in the days of the first Bishop, Right, Rev. Michael O'Connor, who became a Jesuit and died a saint.

His brother, Dr. James O'Connor, afterwards Bishop of Omaha, Neb., resided at the cathedral, and was a warm friend and benefactor of our hospital at the time I mention.

"Few and far between were the theatrical or operatic performances of that day. But suddenly, the city was filled with posters, announcing in glaring letters a fine company was about to give a week's performance in the best opera house.

"The company was of the highest moral standing. The plays were classic and everybody was going to be present.

"In the middle of the week, when the whole town was in delight and almost wild over the 'star,' it was announced she was seriously ill and her understudy would fill her parts for the rest of the time.

"It was too true. One night, after a performance at which the house was in frantic enthusiasm, the best physician of the city was roused up and hurriedly driven to the principal hotel, which was right on the Monongahela river. He was led at once to the lady's room, and found her in high fever.

"'Overstrained nerves, excitement and fatigue,' was the verdict. 'Her life depends upon perfect quiet.'

"The manager was in despair. He knew the people wanted her, and visions of a disastrous finale to a season that began so prosperously, distressed his soul. There was no help for it, and Dr. Bruce, who was on our staff, suggested a removal to our hospital, where quiet, and the best nursing care, could be found.

"Already the hotel people were complaining that their house would be depopulated if the truth got out. So the ambulance was sent at night, when the streets were silent, and the unconscious actress was brought to our care. The best room was demanded and given, and for days the members of the company came, and although they could not see her, all expressed deep concern, and all demanded, and gave generously for her comfort, everything money could buy.