

"Yes, I know," said Fitzgibbon, solemnly, "but it is in heaven.

"No, no, sir, it is here on this earth; in Louisville, Ky."

Then seizing Mr. Fitzgibbon by the arm and turning him in the direction of the residence he led him almost as a child. As they walked along the greatly excited and big-hearted merchant said:

"To-day an old customer, a shoe merchant from Louisville, Ky., came into the store, and I began telling him all about you, when he at once asked your name, and just as soon as I said Fitzgibbon—

"By Jove," said he, "I'll bet a hundred dollars he's the husband of that Mrs. Fitzgibbon who has been sick so long in our St. Joseph's Hospital. She and her little daughter were saved off the *United States* when she collided with the *America*.

"Is that so? Is that so?" I asked in wonderful astonishment.

"It is," said he, "for I have seen her and her daughter, too, for we learned she was the widow of a Masonic brother, and we had her removed from the hospital to the best hotel in the city."

By this time they had entered the parlor, where Mr. Fitzgibbon threw himself down upon the lounge in delirious doubts of what he was hearing, and yet he could but hope in the name and mercy of God, that it was all true.

"But this is not all, my dear brother Fitzgibbon," continued the generous-hearted Benton, "Brother Morris, the gentleman from Louisville, and I went at once to the telegraph office and sent this dispatch:

"Tell us the names of Mrs. Fitzgibbon and daughter, sick at the Louisville Hotel."

The answer came in perhaps half an hour:

"Eliza Fitzgibbon and Nettie, of Mobile."

"That convinces me, satisfies me, Benton," said Fitzgibbon, "that God has actually saved them." He could say no more. His heart was full, and pressing his little Robbie to his bosom again and again he wept great tears of unspeakable joy.

"I was satisfied, too," said Benton, "that it was all right, and I wanted your wife to be as happy to-night as you are, and I sent a despatch stating that:

"Major Henry K. Fitzgibbon, of Mobile, was in this city, in good health, with his little son Robbie, and will be pleased to know that his wife and daughter still live. He will meet them as soon as the locomotive will permit him."

"How soon can I leave?" asked Fitzgibbon, as he raised his head.

"At ten o'clock to-night," answered Benton, "and though I know you ought to join them as soon as possible, if it was under any other circumstances you shouldn't leave yet for a week."

"Thank God! thank God! they live; the dead's alive, the lost are found," was Fitzgibbon's only response.

Taking a solemn and thankful leave of his noble-hearted mystic brother, Benton, he took the earliest train, and two days after Louisville witnessed the re-union of as happy a family as that famous and hospitable city ever entertained.

The dead still lived, and the angel throng

Sang anthems of joy, as they passed along.

—*Masonic Advocate*.

THE MISSION OF FREEMASONS.

THE following is the address of the Grand Chaplain, Rev. H. W. Nye, delivered at the recent meeting of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

M. W. GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN,—It is with profound satisfaction that I address myself to-day to a Grand Lodge which represents the re-united Masonic fraternity of this Province. After five years of unfortunate misunderstanding and alienation, we are met together, animated, I trust, by one spirit, and possessed by one desire and purpose, viz., to forget all past differences in an earnest and hearty endeavor to promote the interest of our beloved craft, and especially of the Grand Lodge to which it is our honor and happiness to belong. Let us not forget on this auspicious occasion to renew our humble and hearty thanks to Him who is "the author of peace, and lover of concord," who alone can "make men to be of one mind in a house." "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name, give the praise."

I appear before you to-day, brethren, to speak to you a word on the appointed mission of every sincere and earnest Mason. I know of no other purpose for which any of us have been admitted into our ancient and world-wide fraternity than that we should seek, first, to improve ourselves by the careful cultivation of every virtue, and, next, to do good to all the members of the great Brotherhood of Man, and especially to those who are bound to us by the most solemn reciprocal vows of fellowship. If we do not strive thus to exemplify in our lives the great principles of our Order, we