A GREAT MISTAKE

OHAPER I.

<section-header><section-header><text><text> four years, another strange family came to reside near Fieldenham, in itself an uncom-mon event; but what made it more singular reside near Fieldenham, in itself an uncom-mon event; but what made it more singular in this case was, that the new-comers bore the same name as the proprietor of the Knoll, and then it was found, that the head of the new family—Mr. Ignatius Hythe— was a brother of the elder resident. This was gratifying news to Fieldenham; for the new comer was not only married, with five or six children, the eldest, indeed being a young man of nineteen or twenty years, but he was a broad faced, loud-speak-ing, bustling man; had been a surgeon in the army; was altogether different from Mr. Maurice, and therefore likely, it was hoped, to effect a great change and improve-ment in the domestic economy of the Knoll. Time passed, however, and this improve-ment was not visible. Those who were on the alert to note what was going on'in the alert to note what was going on'in the sighborhood—and these comprised, it is probable, every living soul in it from seven years of age upwards—reported that while Mr. Ignatius Hythe was a frequent visitor at Elms Knoll, he was zever socompanied by wife or any of his children; nor did his brother ever return the visit. Thus far it was easy to see; but beyond this no ex-planation was obtainable; so the habits and peculiarities of Mr. Maurice Hythe continu-d to be a tantalising problem to the towns-folk. It was on an evening in midsummer, when

do be a containing problem to the work of the loss of the sought such a promenade. He said some-thing of this to his brother, by way of break-ing a long silence. Maurice turned his this sunken face towards him, and with a smile which was almost more bitter than it was sad, said : "You have not gone through the biscipline, Ignatius, which has been my t."

Ignatins had probably anticipated some no attempt to prolong it, but spoke on dif-ferent subjects, and ere long took his de-parture. The cheerfulness and bonhomie which had marked his manner during at most the whole of his interview with his brother, disappeared when he found himself outside the Knoll gates; and during the walk to his own residence, the expression of his face was as sombre as his brother's in his goomiest mood. Its home was a smart modern villa, much smaller, much brighter-looking than down all the gaiety which the high-road oculd sford; for there, no over grown hedges or shadowing trees intercepted the vas sected at work in a parlour command-ing the aforesaid road; and to her the gen-ter. "Oh I there is nothing fresh." returned

"Oh 1 there is nothing fresh," returned

Mr. Hythe. "The only satisfaction I have gained is to know that all is settled against us. I call it against us; of course he does not." ".What ! all that nonsense about trustees

"What ! all that nonsense about trustees and so on ?" inquired the lady. "Exactly," said her husband. "It in all settled now ; the lawyers have done every thing. His property will remain in the hands of trustees for twenty years --all ex-cept that paltry sum in the funds ; then, if no one appears in that time, it will go half to our heirs, and half to that precious hospital."

hospital." "Twenty years !" echoed his wife. "What good will it be to us in twenty years ?" "Not a fraction," said Hythe; " and there will be no raising money upon it; for although there may be a possibility of these shadows and dreams turning to realities, yet who would lend money on such a remote

contingency ?" "He is mad : he ought to be put in an asylum !" exclaimed Mrs. Hythe angrily.

"Is is mad ; he ought to be plut in an asylum !" exclaimed Mrs. Hythe angrily. "Of course he ought," assented her hus band ; " and I can't think where the com-mon-sense of his doctor has been-to say mothing of his consoince and the duty he owes to society—that he has not had him declared out of his mind, and put him where he would be taken care of, long ago." Mr. Hythe's tone and air as he said this were sufficiently decided to show that his con-science at anyrate would certainly have coun-selled the "taking care" of his brother after this fashion. He could not bear to sit quietly down under the disturbing influence of these thoughts, but announced his deter-mination of taking a stroll into the town ; aud in pursuance of this resolve, set out, after a few minut ev further conversation with his wife. Myrtle Villa, the name of Mr. Ignatius

with his wife. Myrtle Villa, the name of Mr. Ignatius Hythe's residence, was not farther from the town than was Elims Knoll ; the Knoll facing a cross-road, while the Villa, as intimated, looked upon the great London highway ; so that Mr. Hythe was not long in reaching the entrance to Fieldenham. Although the sun had disappeared, the light out in the open country was still clear ; but in the town under the shade of the buildings in the long High Street, the dullness of twilight pre-High Street, the dullness of twilight pre-valled, and in nearly all the shops the gas-lights were burning. Some idea of business was possibly at

tached to this evening stroll, for he knocked at one of the smartest yet more substantial houses in the street, the door of which bore a large brass plate, on which was inscribe "BRAFF and MARDLE, Solicitors." In an In an swer to his inquiry, however, it appe that Mr. Mardle was not within.

"It does not greatly matter," muttered Hythe, as he turned sway; "he could not have helped me; nor could he have told me anything I do not know."

scionaly halted in front of two[large bills, which affixed co boards that leaned on each side of the doorway, announced that some per-formance would be held there that evening. He found that Professor Alberto Regaldini, assisted by Medemoiselle Lucile la Petite Tuscano—he smiled as he read these in-congruous names—would give his refined entertainment from the Royal Scientific Gallery, London, and as performed with triumphant success in all the chief olties and towns of the British Empire; introducing, the bill went on to say, the celebrated Mono-logue, in which Professor Ragiadini would aus-tain six separate characters, with approp-riate songs; and concluding with a grand ballet, supported by the before-mentioned Mademoiselle Lucile and Professor Alberto. There was a great deal of this; the changes were rung on the names in every possible way, but it was clear enough that there wore no other performers unless we reckon the celebrated plainist Herr von Joinville as one of the Company. Beyond these three one of the Company. Beyond these three at anyrate, no other names appeared. Moved by a sudden impulse, which, to judge from the cynical smile accompanying it, was hardly complimentary to the expect-ed entertainment. Hythe entered the portal. He went along the silent and empty lobby until he reached what was evidently the new place. but no one sat at the requirt of until he reached what was evidently the pay-place; but no one sat at the receipt of custom, till, while he hesitated what to do, a young man appeared from the adjoining bar, evidently attracted by the sound of footsteps; so Mr. Hythe judged from observ-ing that he passed the back of his hand quickly over his lips, on seeing the stranger. "I will take a ticket for this entertainment," said Hythe. "It has commenced, I pre-sume?" "Just this minit; sir," said the young sume?" "Just this minit, sir," said the young man. He knew it had been in action for half an hour, but, as he afterwards observ-ed to his friend, "he wasn't going to orab the business." "Reserved—stalls—or area, sir ? Reserved is two shillings—stalls, one shilling—area, sixpence, sir. No half price."

bly Room. Is was a large dull-look-ace, with walls divided into old-fash-panelings; a number of Windsor i and forms; a raised platform at the tr end. The room would have seated wen three and four hundred persons it tably, and there were some seventeen inteen present. No one at all in the ord seat; the hotel proprietor's child-in the stalls; townsprople in the area. repessor Regaldini was bowing and leav-the area a Mr. Hythe entered; having

or eacher in the present. No one at all in the reserved seats; the hotel proprietor's child. The stalls; townsp-copie in the area. Pressor Regaldini was bowirg and leaving the stage as Mr. Hythe entered; having just encluded his Mysterious Marvels of Moder. Magic, as performed before the Court and Aristocracy-for the Professor was a conjurer also-and then the planist struck up the satr'acte music. Hythe was able totell that the haggard-looking man at the planoforte was no common player; and he littinged, with more interest than he had anticipated, to a plece which must bave been caviar to the multitude. Then Professor Regaldini came on for his celebrated Monologue Impersonations, and was in succession a Yorkshire farmer, a bonnis flabwife, a swell of the period, alighander, Paddy from Cork, and Mr Pickwick, spectacles and all. No doubt it was all very clever, but dreary; so horrbily dreary, and so suggestive of something seen a hundred times before, that the scanty audience could not be roused to enthusiasem by the performance. Then came duets in character and out of character, by Mademoiselle Lucile and the Professor; and then the Grand Ballet, which would have been more miscrable and depressing than anything that had gone before it, but for the wonderful grace and beauty of the child. She was only some twelve years old. The feeble, awkward dakening of her toilworn coadjutor; the wretohed attempts at scenery or decoration; the empty room, with its hollow echoes—all were forgotten, or rendered of no account, by the accelered it, as an idea had formance been who more totious that all which had preceded it, as an idea had formance been who the last, had this performance been who the last, had this performance been even more totious that all which had preceded it, as an idea had formance and develoced it, as an idea had formance and develoced it, as an idea had formance been who more totious that all which had preceded it, as an idea had formance and develoced it, as an idea had formance and develoced it, as an id performance been even more tedious than all which had preceded it, as an idea had formed and developed in his mind, while watching the earlier portion of the "enter-tainwart "

The scanty audies a filtered alowly from the hall; the gas was turned dows; the "Company"-which, all told; consisted of "Company"—which, all told, consisted of the two performers, the musician, and the young man who had taken Mr. Hythe's money—began folding up "properties" and clearing off their miserable bits of scenery, &c. All this time Mr. Hythe was stand-ing in the darkest corner of the room, unnoticed, or perhaps supposed to be connected with the house; but when the last stick has been to said and connected with the house; but when the last article had been put aside, and the little group stood in the centre of the platform, counting over the few shillings which evidently constituted the takings of the evening—while the burly proprietor of the hotel eyed them curiously from a little distance—all looked up with a start as Mr. Huthe care formed a card be themath the the hotel eyed them curiously from a little distance—all looked up with a start as Mr. Hythe came forward ; and he thought the scared expression on their faces indicated a dread that the stranger might be about to make some demand for money. "The en-tertainment is over," began Professor Reg-aldini.—"I beg your pardon," he continued, altering his tone; "I believe I saw you in the reserved seats ?" "Yes," replied Hythe; "I had the pleasure of seeing the entertainment this evening. I see it is announced for two nights, only. Your stay in the town will not be longer, I suppose ?" "Yes, sit is announced for two nights, said the Professor in a lugubrious tone, and with a glance at the proprietor. "But the patronage received does not justify us in repeating the show. We shall not give the entertainment again." The Professor was a tall, hungry-looking man. narrow-chested, and stooping, without a trace of any nationality about him save the English, and London English too. A certain asthmatic shortness of breath, which made itself apparent every other minute, showed what a trial his work of that even-ing had involved. The other members of the Company were standing around, deject-ed enough, yet with a certain expectant ourloity, as though hoping something might come out of this unlooked for discus-sion. "Well, it is not to the credit of the town to neglect such a performance as your,"

on. "Well, it is not to the credit of the town to neglect such a performance as yours," continued Hythe ; " and for our reputation, continued Hythe ; " and for our reputation, I think something ought to be done to sup-port you. If you are not engaged, I would ask the pleasure of your company at supper here, with, of course, Mademoiselle and Herr yon Joinville.—Mr Bartell"—address-ing the proprietor of the hotel—" you can givens a tolerable supper at once, no doubt?" " Oh, certainly, sir !" exclaimed the land-lord, who was no stranger to Mr. Hythe, and knew by repute the wealth of his broth-er. " In ten minutes, if you please, sir." " Then let us have the best you can put on in that time," said Hythe. "I leave all to you. Your champagne I know already is good." A flush lit up the haggard faces of the two

Meteors.

BY E. W. BERTHOUR.

BY E. W. BEETHOUE. At this age when the human family awakes more and more from its lethargy and especially the advanced thinker steps out from the narrow paths to walk upon broader roads, which nature made in times immemotial and which existed even before this planet was formed; for, it is congeries of meteors which form worlds, it becomes us to engage our attention congeries of meteors which form worlds, it becomes us to engage our attention for an acquaintance with Meteors, the more so since during the month of November in past years the splendor of meteorides or star showers, must have presented to the inquisitive the question : viz. What do they consist of 1 To answer this lucidly let us trace the phemonena, and if possible solve the riddle. A whistling and humming in the air as if a thousand skyrockets ascend into

A whisiling and humming in the air as if a thousand skyrockets ascend into space, a howing like that of a hurricane, then a report like the discharge of many rifles, sometimes too like a report of a cannon, attended by the light from a quickly passing star. Truly an impor-tant event cannot introduce itself with more grandeur than the fall of a meteor. And when the inquisitive spectator approaches the fallen star, he will find upon, but often times, buried in, the ground a stone, which, when water is poured over it, indicates its heat by steam and admits of its being touched only after many hours, nay, when very large—after several days. Let me ask then, is it a wonder that primitive man attached much importance to the falling of meteors and that scientists in our days still watch such events with the greatest attention ?

prehend that the friction caused thereby must heat the meteor enormously. Its outer crust, which receives the heating influences first, expands as much as to cause ohipping off the inner one, still leaving the impressions, spoken of above, visible. But sometimes the friction is so great and the heat of such an extent as to cause the meteor to shatter into atoms sufficiently to cover a field.

in the past, the more so as all ce bodies are self sustaining and need no p rlar man.

Tier man. Tiey are eternal and consequently non-destructive. Man can destroy that which he creates 1 But that which comes from the realms of space, the workchop of the GREAT ARCHITECT OF ALL THINGS, cannot be destroyed.

The Right of Free Speech.

The Bight of Free Speech. Judge Tuley of Chicago has given great disastisfaction to many of the best among his fellow citisens by laying down the law that even Anarchists have the right to free speech, that it is only when they proceed to overt acts against law and order, or are guilty of infl ammatory appeals and exhortations to violence, that they can be interfered with, and that the police have no right to prevent a meeting of Anarchists on the ground that a priori they are likely to encourage one another in fulminating against all forms of established government. The Judge may be theoretically right, bat most people will be diposed to sympathize with those who ob-ject to his ruling. It is no contravention of the Right of Free speech to rule that persons is the transmission against all forms of orfsited that right. In our opinion a great deal of nonsense has been talked in the shere of special pleading for what is called " the right of free speech." In revolt against the tyranny of the past, which made every thing that was said treason or blasphemy if it did not agree with the opinions of oer-tain ruling cliques, men have swung round " bring that was said treason or blasphemy if it did not agree with the opinions of oer-tain ruling subsolute right to freedom a speech in a common wealth of freemen, whore than there is absolute right to freedom a speech in s common wealth of freemen, whore than there is absolute right to freedom a speech in a common wealth of freemen, whore than there is absolute right to freedom a speech in s common wealth of freemen, whore than there is absolute right to freedom a speech in a common wealth of freemen, whore than there is absolute right to freedom at the right in each case is conditional upon

The thine set then, is it's wonder that primitive man attached moth importance in the information of the process intervention of the set of t

t." "Discipline !" began the other ; butevident-litering a speech which was intended to creastic, continued ; "But I was thinking, brice, that there was a time when you were e more hearty and lively of the two ; and "

"No !" exclaimed Maurice ; " I cannot,

""No !" exclaimed Maurice ; "I cannot, or my grief would not be so bitter. I have had the vision again, Ignatius ; that is twice. On its third coming, it will be my death warnine. I have see my solioitor, and all is settled, as I have told you." "Institus smoked his cigar in silence, and there was an increased depression about him which implied that this announcement was not altogether to his taste. His brother, too, walked on silently, but there was noth-ing unsual in this." "It is of no use my arging you to go among people again," said Ignatius at last. "I would stake my life that a single month of cheerful, rational society would get rid of all this hypochondrical delusion. It is nothing more. However, I will not press the matter; I know what you are. You will not even see the doctor I recommended. I snowe?" "No, no," replied Maurice. "If he saw wasted and broken figure, he would try common places of his art upon me, and have he heard me speak, would a the beard me speak, would a to be yours-ing some to you a kind annoe is now all that I

at once. "I have

his wife. And

shilling area, sixpence, six, it is an price." "I there is room in the reserved, I will take one of them," said Hythe. "O yes, sir; you will find room there.— Thank ye, sir," orninued the young man, as he handed a yellow ticket marked 503, which, from its worn and limp condition, had evidently done duty many a night be-

Mr. Hythe passed through the gr

is good." A flush lit up the haggard faces of the two

A flush lit up the haggard faces of the two men at this mention of a wine which showed the character of the expected feast; and being invited by the landlord to adjourn to the "small club-room," the party followed him at once, due provision being made for the regalement of the assistant elsewhere. On their way, the Professor stole an in-stant to whisper to the plauist: "This is capital, isn't it? But I wonder what he means by it?" (TO BE CONTINUED.)

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

How the Bismarcks Work.

Bismarck is always at his desk till the small hours of the morning, whether in Ber-lin, Friedrichsruhe, Varzin, or in the sum-mer resorts which he is in the habit of fre-In, Predictorshine, varia, of in the sour-mer resoris which he is in the habit of fro-quenting. While engaged thus, a plate of green corn soup serves himself and son for refreshment. His constant companion while working is Privy Councillor Von Rothen-burg, who is known in Berlin as "Bismarck's shadow," so seldom is either alone. He runs continually between the palace where the Chatcellor works and the rooms of the Foreign Ministry, where Count Herbert carries out his instructions. Few of the older Ministers, who envy Count Herbert his rapid promotion and the responsibilities of his position, would consent to labour as he does. The frame and constitution of a Bis-marck seem necessary to bear the strain.— [Berlin Letter. [Berlin Letter.

It is bad policy to be haughty, repellent, unsocial. The most resolute aspirant to wealth or position may stumble as he climbs, and, if no one stretches out a finger to save him, may roll headling to a depth far celow the point from whit the started. A lift for a lift is the business the of to-day.

der.

cover a field. An exploring Englishman discovered such a field in Brazil, shipped 55,000 pounds of it to England and extracted from these frag-ments nickel and resped a large profit, but deprived the museum of many of the rare countrymen seek after these stones when they learn of the discoveries which scientists have made ! We have seen that meteors in their com-

have made ! We have seen that meteors in their com-position, remind us of volcanic eruptions, and of these erupted stones, which resemble greatly those in space, some have engaged the attention of the American Geologist, Lewis, some years ago. It was one which had its home in South Africa about ten years ago, and which contained a large diamond and attracted many European settlers to the river Vaal. river Vaal.

In regard to this resemblance, Professor Louis invited analysts to pay attention to the presence of Diamonds in meteors when the presence of Diamonds in meteors when assaying same. Till a few months ago this suggestion remained unheeded, when some Russian scientists found in a Meteor, which fell in the District of Penss, on 22ad Sept., 1886, a quantity of grey sand which contain-ed pure carbon, and which left marks upon glass. In short, doubt existed no longer, they had diamonds in their hands. The re-sult of their labors was more lucrative than that of many diamond diggers; for, one hundredth part of the Meteor represented this precious sand.

this precious sand. This, however, will not effect the price of diamends materially, because their presence has so far been ascertained to consist only of dust. Yet, this discovery is of greatest im portance to science, for, the source of Met ors was, till two years ago, still shrouded

In mystery. Many suppositions are entertained as to the true home of meteors; but the question still engages the minds of acientist whether meteors direct their course towards the earth from distant spheres of the fixed stars, or from the mainforming space of this planet or from the neighboring space of this planet, where other worlds complete their course around the sun.

around the sun. Aud another riddle which presents itself, is, whether these heavenly bodies are de-scendants from other worlds, or are they wandering through space ever since they were congeries of atoms? The new discoveries by scientists will threw seme light upon this question, and in a short time the riddle of finding diamonds in measure will receive more attention than

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soning tyranny, but in this free country where every right is cheerfully, acceded

Cannonading for Rain.

Bidding for Popular Faver.

In the race for sensational popularity be-tween Mr. Spurgeon, Mr. Haweis, and him-self—each representing one of the three lead-ing denominations in London—Dr. Joseph Parker at present is ahead. He has attained Parker at present is shead. He has attained this supremacy by mean of a series of Mon-day talks to workingmen at the City Tem-ple. To these he invites workingmen to come in 'heir working clothes, and eat sheir dinners and smoke their pipes while he talks to them. The topic of his first talk was "Mistakes About Preachers." Certainly, there can be no mistake about Dr. Parker, for one. As Mr. Spurgeon is wrestling with the gout at Mentone, Mr. Hawels must be looked to for the next bid for popular faveur. favour.

"And how did Biffkins become insane ?" "By absorption. He sleps for three months beneath a crasy quilt."