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## CHAPTER II.

By the advice of my solicitor, the following lines appeared in the "Times" newspaper, and in various other periodicals of the United Kingdom :

### NOTICE.

**£100 REWARD** will be given to any person supplying such information as will lead to the discovery of MRS. JANE MOFFITT, late of No.—, J—— Street, Limehouse, London.

MRS. MOFFITT is earnestly requested to place herself in immediate communication with Mr. Eugène Murat, of No.—, Berkeley Square : or, with his solicitor, L. Francis, Esquire, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London.

A month passed ; still no news of Ida Vernon, or Mrs. Moffitt.

On the 23rd August, I most unexpectedly received the following note from my old school-fellow and friend, O'Shaughnessy :

HACKETT'S HOTEL, 'Tuesday.

My Dear Eugène,—

I arrived yesterday from Algiers. Pray come and dine with me this evening. I cannot call upon you, as important business will detain me in the city, until after six. I shall expect you. I was sorry to learn of Sir Charles Darley's demise.

Yours truly,

B. W. O'SHAUGHNESSY.

It is more than eighteen months ago since we parted ; I therefore look pleasantly forward to our meeting. I promised myself some relaxation, from the dull monotony of my every day existence : I dressed, and was driven to Hackett's, in Piccadilly.

Our *rencontre* was a warm one ; he congratulated me on my good fortune, and deplored my loss. Our