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GHEEL-THE CITY OF THE SIMPLE.

grown into a relation to it that is hardly comprehensible. "It is a place," says a foreign letter-writer, "where the same and insame are indistinguishable; where the children are bred up at the knee of madmen, and old people do not fear mono-maniars; where the strongest tra-dition is the lore of mental medicine, and the liveliest commerce the lodging of the insane; where the mother has been known to place her child in the arms of a furious maniac because her duty was to pacify him; where the inns are hospitals, the farm-houses cells, the tradesmen warders, the work women nurses, the Government a mad doctor, the passers-by patients, the history for twelve hundred years a vast register of mania." It is a place, too, as unknown as it is strange, a place where lunatics are as welcome as invalids are at watering places, and where insanity is no more regarded than gout is at the springs where gout is alleviated or cured. Gheel stands out peculiar among the surrounding towns. In them the ordinary fear and distike of lunacy is manifested. At Gheel alone it is, and has been for forty generations, the special-

been for forty generations, the special-ity of the town. The number of lunatics at Gheel is about eight hundred. Only the most desperate ones are confined: the rest wander about at will, pursue all trades, and even frequent the inns, though ex-cess in drinking is prohibited by heavy penalties on the landlord. The house-holders of Gheel are all "nourriciers," and to each one some lunatic is assigned. and to each one some lunatic is assigned, and left as free as he would be in any city where a parsport must be vised be-fore the possessor of it could leave. The lunatic is free to do what he chooses so that he does no great violence. One case is recorded of a man whose mania Retail was breaking windows. He commenced life in Gheel by breaking thirty win-dows the first day, and fourteen the se-cond; and then finding that no person took the least notice of him, gave up the practice forever. The example gives a fair idea of the whole Gheel system. Unless a person is absolutely dangerous to himself or others, or imbued with a decided tendency to escape, the supervision exercised over him is so slight as hardly to attract his notice.

Under this system there are many

the victim of the the tender passion, his first love being an actress, whom he wished to marry, but who laughed at him. The second was a young French lady, Isalina Barbatum, whom, after much opposition from her patroness, Countess Humiecks, he married. Be-ing informed is a faw weeks after his Twenty-six miles east of Antwerp is the town of Gheel, in Belgium, a town of ten thousand inhabitants, which for twelve hundred years has been a great asylum for innatics. During all this time its people have been warders of the insane, until they understand that dis-ease as no one else has done, and have grown into a relation to it that is hardly ter was born to him. He traveled over Europe, had letters to persons of the highest position, so that in a few years he was enabled to retire with ease and he was enabled to retire with ease and comfort. At the end of the last century, having been seen by some of the pre-bendaries of Durham, he was prevailed upon by that body to take up his abode for life in Bank's Cottage, near their city, they engaging to allow him a handsome income. He accepted this offer, and enjoyed the clerical bounty up to the time of his death, which hap-pened at the same cottage on Septem-ber 5, 1837, when he was ninety-eight years of age - W. A. Sever in Horpers' years of age. - W. A. Sever, in Harpers' Magazine for July.



DRESS COODS.





human mensgerie. During all the years that Gheel has had the care of lunatics, there is no re-port of mischief, but only of good. It is a system novel and peculiar, and has the advantage in Belgium of habit and tradition, but it seems rational and correct, and as Gheel becomes better known, its example will be commended to other nations. Distance Branching attained

A LITTLE MAN.

Perhaps the most remarkable dwarf of which there is any record, in ancient or modern times, is Count Joseph Boru-lawski, born in Polish Russia in 1739. His parents were of the medium size, and had a family of six children, five sons and one daughter. Three of the former, when full grown, exceeded the middle stature; but the other two and the daughter attained only that of children of about the age of four years. At the time of Joseph's birth he measured only eight inches in length; but he was neither weak nor defective; and his mother, who suckled him herself, fre-quently stated that none of her children gave her less trouble than he. His sisand cheerful temper and a feeling and benificent heart. At the age of fifteen, being then twenty-five inches high, he was presented to the Empress Maria Thereas, who on one occasion took him on her lap, caressed him, and asked him what he thought was the most curious and interesting at Vienna. He answered that he had seen in that city many things worthy of admiration, but nothing seemed so extraordinary as nothing seemed so extraordinary as that which he then beheld. "And what is that?" inquired her Majesty. "To see so little a man on the lap of so great a woman," replied Borulawski. The Empress then wore a ring on which was her cipher in brilliants. His hand being in hars, and he look-ing attentively at this jewel, she asted him whether the cipher was pretty. "I beg your Majesty's pardon," replied Borulawski; "it is not the ring I am

coking at, but the hand, which I be-



seech your permission to kise;" at the same time raising it to his fips. The flattered Empress thereupon took a very fine diamond ring from the finger of Maria Antoinette, then a child, and put it on Borulawski's. The notice of the Empress produced him the atten-tion of the whole court, and the marked kindness of Count Kaunits. By this time the little man was about twenty-eight inches high, could bear fatigue and lift great weights in proportion to his size, possessed mental energy and accomplishments, and s judgment very sound; understood arithmetic, spoke German and French, was ingenious in everything he undertook, lively in his reparters, and just in his reasonings. Being once upon the lap of the Prin-cess Nassau-Weilbourg, she said, "Are you not very sorry you are not taller?" flattered Empress thereupon took a very you not very sorry you are not taller?" "No," he replied; "If I was I should not have the honor to sit upon your la-dyship's knee." Borulawski was twice





