

GRIERSON A WONDER

Doesn't Know a Note of Music Yet Is a Musician.

Has Played Before Crowned Heads—Raised in Illinois, as a Lad, He Amazed Salons of Second Empire With Talent.

New York.—The story of Francis Grierson's life, the essayist and pianist who came here from London is interesting.

Mr. Grierson was a lad of about ten years of age when he was brought into Alton, Ill., on a memorable October day with grownups of his family to hear the great Lincoln-Douglas debate—the "memorable day on which the irrepressible conflict" predicted by Seward actually began," as Mr. Grierson puts it in his "The Valley of Shadows." With these vital statistics at hand you'll have to figure out his age yourself.

The last time he was in America was twenty-one years ago. His first visit here, and it was a lengthy one, began when he was an infant in arms. Six months after his birth in England his father, a cousin of Gen. Grierson, who fought under Grant, brought him to America. The father took a farm in the Mississippi valley, became an American citizen and simultaneously raised little Francis and produce on the farm until shortly before the Civil war.

The future musician and writer was a youngster when the war began. Promptly he got a job of a more or less exciting character as messenger boy for Gen. Fremont, memories of which he was to recount years after in his "Valley of Shadows." Already to be had begun to show the first signs of an uncanny faculty for improvising on the piano, although as he says of his very early boyhood days on the farm "we didn't have pianos on the prairies in the '50s."

He didn't know a note of music then. He didn't when later he played for Auber, for Wagner and others of the great that included royalty. And he can't read a note of music today.

He hasn't even a piano in his London apartments and doesn't own one. He never practices.

The Illinois farmer boy's "city" experience consisted only of a time spent in St. Louis and in a Chicago that antedated Mrs. O'Leary's cow when the wanderlust struck him. In the last year of the last empire the young man from Illinois, now in his 20s, and, to judge from Geslin's portrait, somewhat of an etherealized Poe in that day, he was invited to a great French lady's salon to play.

That was the day Prudhomme, then eighty years old, Auber and the other



Francis Grierson.

notables gathered with smiles to hear the American prodigy—"freak" better describes the Frenchmen's opinion of him, formed on hearsay.

"Don't study," cried Auber, after he had expressed his amazement and admiration. "Perhaps if you study music here you will lose, at least spoil, your strange gift." And Prudhomme, then perhaps the most profound scholar of France, came over to him to say, "You have placed me on the threshold of the other world."

A year or two in and about Paris caused his fame to spread in limited but important circles on the continent. A recital in St. Petersburg resulted in an invitation to play at the Gatschina palace, not only to play but to be the guest of royalty. From Russia he went to the Austrian Tyrol and in a little inn there he played on invitation for a royal group that included representatives of Austria, Denmark, Germany and England.

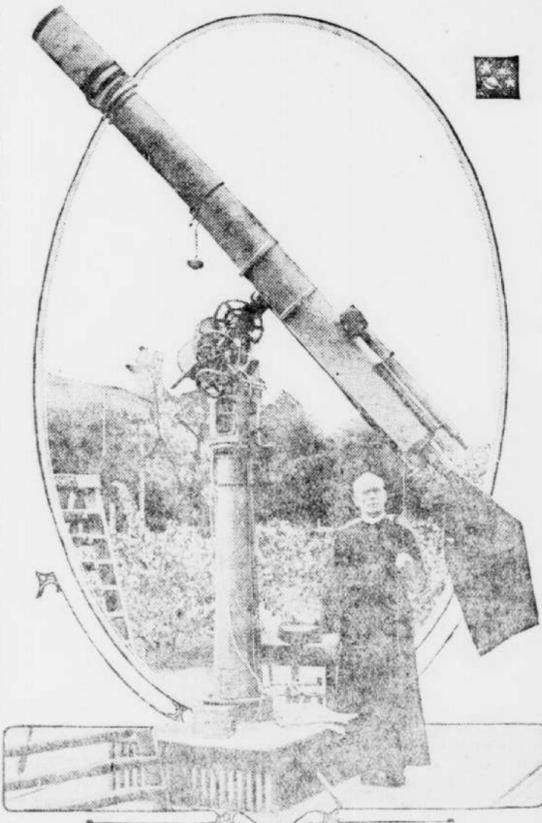
He had been playing for years in the capitals of Europe when one day he dropped his salon recitals. He would be a writer. Although he had left the United States knowing only the English language he sat down—he was forty years old now—and wrote a volume of essays in French.

Ten years later his first book of essays in English, "Modern Mysticism," brought him a message, from Maurice Maeterlinck that ran:

"This volume is full of thoughts and meditations of the very highest order. You have deliciously and profoundly surprised me—you have said so many things which I should like to have written myself."

GIVES SKIN TO SAVE HUSBAND
Wife's Sacrifice Will Result in Bringing the Separated Family Together Once More.
Owosso, Mich.—Several weeks ago Bert Jenkins was leaning against some metal equipment in the power plant when it was struck by lightning. His left arm was terribly burned. He was living apart from his wife then and was taken to the hospital without comforting words from her.

DISCOVERER OF GREAT SUN SPOT



Father Jerome Ricard of Santa Clara university, California, who discovered the largest sun spot seen in two years, is popularly known as the "Padra of the Realm." His remarkable weather forecasts have astounded the weather forecasters of the country. He has made a study of the subject during the past 13 years, and has been sending out bulletins foretelling the weather, not merely for a day ahead, but a month ahead, and foretelling it accurately. He is sixty-five years old and rugged. The new sun spot which he discovered has an area of 469,936,709 square miles. It is 32,013.15 miles long and 12,865.26 miles wide.

DUCKS OVERRUN THIS STATE

In Louisiana Hunters Apparently Cannot Kill the Birds Fast Enough.

Washington.—"Northern sportsmen can have no idea of the pleasures of duck hunting in Louisiana unless they have visited that state and had actual experience," remarked J. A. Dayries, a member of the Louisiana game commission. Mr. Dayries is also a member of the national game commission and is much interested in the movement to protect migratory birds from the guns of hunters.

"It isn't often that game birds overrun any hunting section," continued Mr. Dayries, "but that is just what is happening down in Louisiana. The whole state is fairly flooded with wild duck and geese, and the hunting season will be the biggest we have ever known in the state. The trouble is, we shall not have enough hunters to kill the birds. Under the Louisiana law gunners are allowed to shoot only in the morning.

"After 12 o'clock they must shoulder their guns and go home. But the presence of multitudes of black and mallard duck has put a new phase on the situation. The big flocks of mallards have invaded the rice fields and have been eating up the rice crop to such an extent that the state game commission has granted 500 licenses to rice growers, extending the time in which they are permitted to shoot the birds.

"After the ducks have finished with a rice field it looks like a cyclone had struck it. The damage to the rice crop, due to the extraordinary number of mallards, has been so great that it threatens serious loss to the growers, hence the extension of time in which the hunters may shoot the birds."

SENSITIVE CAT A SUICIDE

Billy Was Slapped on the Head on His Thirteenth Birthday, on December 13, 1913.

Bloomfield, N. J.—Miss Lucy Bergen of Washington street, in this town, is sure that her large black cat committed suicide deliberately, and many persons who saw the tragic end of her pet agreed with her.

The cat ran out to the middle of the street in front of its home, and awaited the approach of an automobile. The chauffeur saw the animal and steered in next to the curb to avoid hitting it. But the cat crawled toward the curb, judging the distance so as to get exactly in front of the wheels of the auto, which ran over it.

Speaking of it Miss Bergen said, "I was putting a pink ribbon on 'Billy's' neck in honor of his thirteenth birthday, when he scratched my hand, for which I gave him a sharp blow on the side of the head with my open hand. He jumped off the table and sought refuge behind a gas range in the kitchen. I felt sorry for what I had done and tried to coax him out, but he paid no attention to me, and at the first opportunity he ran out the kitchen door.

"I thought he would soon return, and after bathing my wound I went into the parlor and sat by the window. From there I saw 'Billy' lying in the street. It was not until then

Jenkins' injuries gave promise of costing his life and as a last resort Dr. Harold Hume, the attending physician, determined on a skin grafting operation, offering some of his own skin and calling for volunteers to furnish more.

The first to answer the call was Mrs. Jenkins, and she came to the hospital and made known that she was ready to make the sacrifice. Jenkins was apprised of his estranged wife's offer and he sent for her.

Today they are reconciled, and

that I remembered our talk at the breakfast table. Billy was thirteen years old, it is the 13th day of the month and the year 1913. Then I saw the automobile coming and I ran to the door. Billy's actions prove to me that he wanted to die, for the driver of the automobile did everything possible to avoid running over him."

MASKED FETE FOR BACHELORS

Society Women Entertain Parisians—Mlle. de Priel One of the Maskers in Costume.

New York.—When Anthony J. Drexel gave a series of dinner parties for the Russian grand duke, it led to the revival of an old Parisian custom whereby bachelors helped their female friends to act as hosts at entertainments at which women were also invited. Following Mr. Drexel's example, the Count de Cambaceres, one of



Mlle. de Priel in Paquin Gown.

the wealthiest members of the French nobility, gave an evening party attended by the younger members of old families and by society women, who were masked throughout the affair, and left without revealing their identity. Mlle. de Priel, one of the guests, is shown here in a Paquin gown, as she appeared at the dinner.

Beavers Cause Much Trouble.
Cranberry, N. J.—When a colony of beavers dammed the outlet to Cranberry lake the cellars of householders were flooded. The dam was destroyed. The beavers are rebuilding further up.

Passaic, N. J.—After trying her second husband for a month, Mrs. Rebecca Minster packed up and moved. "Not the man for me," said she, when she applied for a divorce.

when Jenkins recovers they are going to live together again. They have two children.

Check Blown 52 Miles.
Harrisburg, Pa.—A check for \$22.50, belonging to S. F. Hess of Woodbine, Md., has just been found near Hummelstown, Pa., where it had been blown by the wind. The check was in the home of Hess September 21, when a tornado demolished his house and barn. The distance between the two towns in a beeline is 52 miles.

OPPORTUNITIES IN FOREST PLANTING FOR FARMERS

By ALLEN S. PECK

FORESTRY is but one of the forms of crop production included under agriculture. The woodland is an integral part of the farm and an essential factor in its success. Forest planting is that part of forestry which seeks to restock and perpetuate desirable timber and to establish new forests on treeless areas.

The lands which offer opportunities for planting may be classified into (1) cut-over burned lands, not fitted for agriculture, which are not restocking naturally with commercially valuable species; (2) forest lands originally cleared for agriculture which have since proven unsuitable for this purpose; and (3) farm woodlots. The abandoned farms of southern New England are striking examples of the second class, as are also the lands in

for this purpose are the white pine, the Scotch and Austrian pines, and the Norway spruce.

Except for the early planting in New England, the farmers of Ohio and Indiana have been the first to recognize the value and importance of forest planting. In these two states and generally throughout the central valley district, the practice has been to plant rapid-growing kinds. For example, in West Virginia and south-western Pennsylvania, locust, locust, sugar maple, red oak, chestnut, and catalpa, have been planted for posts, mine props and timber; in Ohio, black locust and catalpa for posts, in Indiana, black locust, catalpa, and walnut in Kentucky, black locust, catalpa, tulip, poplar, maple, and walnut principally for mine timbers and posts; in Tennessee, locust, maple and cedar; in Missouri, catalpa, locust, walnut, cedar, orange, cottonwood; in Arkansas, locust and walnut.

In the central section forest planting has been a part of the progress in agriculture and therefore has been quite extensive in the region of best agricultural development. Nebraska and Kansas lead in the acreage of plantations. About 2,000,000 acres have been planted within the central region. Since 1880 the acreage has been increasing in the newer farming districts of the Dakota and Oklahoma, and much interest is being shown in forest planting throughout the central section of the United States.

In the western region and the Pacific coast states much of the forest land is within National Forests, and forest planting on these lands is chief by a federal problem. But there are abundant opportunities for private planting in the valleys of southern California and on irrigated lands throughout the region.

It is absolutely essential that the people of each state and particularly farm owners, should realize the immense importance of individual effort in providing for a future timber supply. The quantity of land that can be restored to value through forest planting by the federal government or by the states is in the aggregate small and comparatively insignificant as compared to the great area that must



Plantation of Hardy Catalpa, Reno County, Kansas.

where they are needed for protective or other purposes. Forest planting should not be confused with tree planting or arboriculture, for these terms cover only the planting and care of

the southern Appalachians, once cleared for farming but now ruined by erosion.

The area of plantation already made in the eastern region is nearly 93,000 acres, and 85,000 acres of this are about equally divided between the northern tier of states and the central hardwood region.

Forest planting requires a considerable initial investment, and the cost is relatively higher than that required to start any other form of forest work. Therefore protection of the investment is of the utmost importance, and fire is the source of loss most to be guarded against. Other things that must be taken into consideration are cheap land, a good market, a minimum initial cost, and a low rate of taxation.

In the Lake States, which have a southern hardwood forest and a northern coniferous forest, forest planting is rapidly increasing. The principal species which have been planted are white pine, Scotch pine, Norway pine, European larch, and, to some extent, the more rapid growing hardwoods, such as locust, catalpa, black walnut, cottonwood, ash and elm. As in the east, woodlots are deteriorating and require interplanting. Excellent trees



A 27-Year-Old European Larch Plantation, Dundee County, Ill.

be forested eventually by private land owners, among whom the farmer stands first and foremost.

trees chiefly for ornamental purposes, while forest planting indicates the planting of trees in stands of considerable size, in which forest conditions are sought.

In the farming districts of the east, where almost every farmer has preserved a small bit of the original forest, which he calls his woodlot, there is very general lack of appreciation of the necessity for utilizing these woodlots to the best advantage, and of the methods by which this may be accomplished. Much may be done by management, which consists largely in careful cutting that will keep the forest cover intact, and in removing dead any dying and inferior trees. Planting, however, is very generally needed in order to hasten the restocking of woodlots with valuable species. One of the fundamental principles of forestry is that the trees in a stand must be sufficiently close together to be mutually helpful; that is, that their crowns must form a continuous cover to shade the ground and the tree trunks, in order that side branches may be self-pruned and the trees be forced into straight upward growth. Where there are open spaces they should be planted, and where it is desirable to cut a portion of a woodlot clean much time can be saved by planting instead of waiting for natural reproduction. On many farms the tract now occupied by the woodlot would be more valuable for crops, while on the same farm there may be an irregular plot of land or a piece of worn-out or rocky land upon which it would be wise to plant trees. Planting is also valuable to check erosion, or soil washing.



Red Pine Plantation, 33 Years Old, Rhode Island.

MIGHTY RIVER IS THE YUKON
Body of Water, at Places Sixty Miles Wide, is the Hope of the Territory of Alaska.

Dismiss from your mind any notion that the Yukon river is a puny stream fed by eternal glaciers and trickling away to the sea. It is a river, so mighty that it can spread over a width of 60 miles on the Yukon flats and still have depth enough in the main channel to float heavily laden

freight steamers. From its mouth (near St. Michael) at the Behring sea it is navigable all the way to White Horse, in the Yukon territory of Canada, an unbroken stretch of over 2,100 miles—two-thirds of the distance from New York to San Francisco. Add to this the navigable water of its tributaries—370 miles on the Innoko river, 320 on the Iditarod, 620 on the Koyukuk, and 392 on the Tanana—and you will begin to have a fair idea of what a big river, we have in our great empire beneath the northern lights.



Interior of a 50-Year-Old White Pine Plantation, near Bridgewater, Mass.

good man," said Sir Edwin. "I was merely remarking how bad that was."

"Then why don't you go and do better?" said the policeman, who had no idea to whom he was speaking.—The Argonaut.

No Fanatic.
Friend—I understood you'd joined the Audubon society, and yet your new hat is trimmed with feathers.

Wearer of Hat—Yes, but you see the bird they came from was killed before I joined.—Boston Transcript.

Makes Gloves X-Ray Proof.
M. Menard, chief of the radiographic department of the Cochin hospital, Paris, and M. Cousin, chief pharmacist of the same hospital, have succeeded in impregnating rubber with the salts of heavy metals, such as lead, in quantity great enough to make the rubber impervious to X-rays. With the impregnated rubber they have made gloves which will prevent the hands of operators from being burned while administering the X-rays.

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You don't save money when you buy cheap or big-size baking powder. Don't be misled. Buy Calumet. It's more economical—more wholesome—gives best results. Calumet is far superior to sour milk and soda.

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Ladies, give little chocolate-coated HOT SPRINGS LIVER BUTTONS a chance to drive out constipation forever. They never fail. They are so wonderfully good, safe and gentle that the famous physicians in Hot Springs, Ark., prescribe them regularly.

They speedily put the liver, stomach and bowels in the finest of condition, drive out the decomposed matter, and purify the blood.

Thousands upon thousands use them for headache, nervousness, lack of appetite, and that lack of ambition feeling. They are great for clearing the complexion of pimples and blotches. All druggists sell HOT SPRINGS LIVER BUTTONS on money back if not satisfied plan for 25 c. For free sample write Hot Springs Chemical Co., Hot Springs, Ark.

Reflection on Hospitality.
At a certain Scottish mansion notorious for scanty fare, a gentleman was inquiring of the gardener about a dog which some time before he had given to the laird. The gardener showed him a lank greyhound, upon which the gentleman said:

"No, no! The dog I gave your master was a mastiff, not a greyhound."

The gardener quietly answered: "Indeed, no dog might soon become a greyhound by stopping here."

IS EPILEPSY CONQUERED?
"New Jersey Physician Said to Have Many Cures to His Credit."
Red Bank, N. J. (Special).—Advices from every direction fully confirm previous reports that the remarkable treatment for epilepsy being administered by Dr. Perkins of this city, is achieving wonderful results. Old and stubborn cases have been greatly benefited and many patients claim to have been entirely cured.

Persons suffering from epilepsy should write at once to Dr. H. W. Perkins, Branch 49, Red Bank, N. J., for a supply of the remedy which is being distributed gratuitously.—Adv.

Stated a Fact.
In a private sitting room at a certain hotel sat a party of merry-makers, when there came a knock at the door, and an attendant announced:

"The compliments of Mr. —, the author, who is in the next room, and he says you are making so much noise that he cannot write."

"He can't write, eh?" said one of the prettiest of the party. "Why, tell him everybody who has read him knows that."

RUB-MY-TISM
Will cure your Rheumatism and all kinds of aches and pains—Neuralgia, Cramps, Colic, Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Old Sores, Burns, etc. Antiseptic Anodyne. Price 25c.—Adv.

Not a Linguist.
Mrs. Worley—If, as you say, your master kissed you against your will, why did you not cry "Help?"

French Maid—Ah, madam! Zatees just see word of wick I could not sink at ze moment. Zen, ven I remember eet, eet was too late. He haf kissed me t'ree, four, five times!—Puck.

Pneumonia? Apply Hanford's Balsam.
Rub it on and rub it in thoroughly, until the skin is irritated. Adv.

Lusher's Lexicon.
Positive: Just a wee ane.
Comparative: A wee drap in oor ee.
Superlative: Fou.

Stop that cough, the source of Pneumonia, etc. Prompt use of Dean's Mentholated Cough Drops gives relief—See at Druggists.

Never propose to a girl in moonlight. Wait and see how she looks next morning.