

# Has Had Strange Career

One of the most versatile criminals this country has produced is now a prisoner at Governor's Island, New York charged with desertion from the United States army. He recently emerged from Sing Sing prison at Ossining, N. Y., as a ward of Mrs. Balington Booth of the Volunteers of America. Since his release he has led an upright, honest life and served as secretary to Mrs. Booth. He also became almoner to Mrs. McAlpin, wife of Gen. McAlpin, who dispenses \$20,000 yearly in aiding ex-convicts who are struggling to live honest lives. Just as his future seemed bright a cloud came out of his past and he finds himself in a military barracks charged with a serious offense.

The name of this man whose nemesis pursues him is Alexander Skelly. During the 13 years of his tumultuous life he has been swindler, desperado, train robber, highwayman, Indian fighter, chief of police in Alaska, soldier, college man, physician, forger, convict and reformer of equally hardened men.

He was born in London of a family high in social and pecuniary standing, and after passing through Latin school, attended the college of the city of London, wherein he acquitted himself so creditably that at the age of 21 he was graduated not only from the college, but from the medical school as well. After graduating a desire for adventure, coupled with the fact that he had developed some wild traits displeasing to his parents, caused him to come to this country, where he subsequently enlisted in the army.

His experiences in the ranks were varied. He would serve out a term of enlistment and then leave the service for wild trips about the country, spending much of his time in jail or dodging officers. He served under Gen. Miles, following that leader in his campaigns against the Indians of the southwest, and was a member of the famous troop that pursued Geronimo and his band of bloody Apaches until they were captured. Later he fought under Buffalo Bill and Gen. Lawton and Shafter.

These army experiences, adventurous trips and prison sentences covered a period of twenty-five years, after which Skelly practiced medicine for a time in Paso, Texas, played cowboy in Arizona and was a highwayman and train robber in California.

Speaking of his life Skelly says: "In one of my periods of absence from the army I wandered up to Alaska. It happened to be a time when I was being good, and by my knowledge of criminals, my service as a soldier and my ability to use a gun, I was appointed chief of police of Sitka, and I gave them a good administration. That grew tiresome, so I came back to the states.

"When war between Peru and Chile broke out I went down to Chile. I spoke Spanish fluently, having learned it in Mexico and when in South America at various times. It was no trouble for me to get a commission in the Chilean army. I was made a captain and fought all during the trouble there.

"At the time of the Spanish-American war I was a sergeant in the Third Cavalry, and when we got to Tampa I rejoiced that under the Stars and



Alexander Skelly.

Stripes I would see some real war. But when the time for going to Cuba came I was detailed as one of the troops to stay behind and care for the horses. It made me most heartily disgusted. Then we were ordered to Camp Wyckoff, on Long Island, and there began the trouble that brought me into this court to-day.

"We lay around there for some time. I was heartbroken at missing the fun in Cuba, and when the order came to go to Fort Ethan Allen I bucked. It was the last straw, and I thought it was time to quit."

It was here that Skelly committed the desertion for which he is now being held.

After leaving the army he went to New York, where he perpetrated a number of successful forgeries. Of his experiences there he says: "They caught me finally, and I got two years in Sing Sing. It would have been ten had not some well known New Yorker stood for me."

It was during his two years' term at Sing Sing that the mighty change was wrought in this remarkable criminal. Persistent efforts toward reform were finally productive of good result and at the expiration of his sentence he came out into the world with high ideals and a determination to live an upright, honest life. Mrs. Booth, however, turned her back to his welfare and

installed him as her secretary and through Mrs. McAlpin he became engaged in the work of reforming crim-



Mrs. McAlpin.

inals, until arrested on the old charge of desertion.

## BACTERIA AS FERTILIZER.

Agricultural Department Solves a Serious Problem.

How to do away with the use of artificial fertilizers, compounded from the nitrates of Peru and other dry countries, and thus anticipate the nitrate famine predicted by many scientists, is a problem which the United States agricultural department thinks it has succeeded in solving.

If its ideas and methods stand the test of use, as there is every reason to believe that they will, the farmer of the future, instead of spending time and money for expensive fertilizers brought from the ends of the earth, will merely empty the contents of a test tube into a barrel of water, let it stand over night, soak his seeds in it, and then plant them. The result will be even better, says Crittenden Marriott in the National, than that obtained from the older and more costly methods now in vogue.

## Cannibal Plants.

Most carnivorous plants are of comparatively small size. A species recently discovered by Dunstan on the shores of Lake Nicaragua, however, is not so. As this naturalist was walking with his dog he was attracted by its cries of pain and terror and hastening to the rescue found the animal held by three black sticky bands, which had chafed the skin to bleeding. These bands were the branches of a newly found carnivorous plant which has been named by Dunstan the "land octopus." The branches are described as being flexible, polished black, without leaves, secreting a viscid fluid and furnished with a great number of suckers by which they attach themselves to their victims.

## Too Much Morgan.

A free lance circular called "The Wall Street Glascutus" was circulated among New York brokers a few days ago. It voiced in light vein the sentiment that Pierpont Morgan has too much influence in the finances and industries of the country. "Roar I," "page 1," has several paragraphs on that subject, including these: "After conquering more than he and his generals can wisely control the great American Napoleon of Grab is crying, 'More, more, more!' How much have you contributed to his 'rake-off' in the steel trust, his railroad submerger? Sell a little Morgan short. Too much risk on one man. But remember the Glascutus is a big bull on the country."

## Mark George Peabody's Birthplace.

The tablet to mark the birthplace of George Peabody, the banker and philanthropist, was unveiled by the Peabody, Mass., Historical Society. The tablet is of bronze and has the following inscription in raised letters: "Birthplace of George Peabody, Feb. 18, 1795. Placed by the Peabody Historical society, 1902." This tablet will be bolted to a rough stone post five feet out of the ground to be set two feet inside the fence, directly in front of the old part of the house in which Mr. Peabody was born. The date of the unveiling is the semi-centennial of the reception by the town of the gift from Mr. Peabody of the endowment of the Peabody Institute.

## California Woman Honored.

Miss Alice Robertson has passed successfully through the ordeal of her public examination for the degree of doctor of philosophy from the University of California. Miss Robertson is the third woman to receive from the University of California its highest academic distinction. The first woman to be made a doctor of philosophy at Berkeley was Miss Millicent Shinn, upon whom the degree was conferred in 1898. The second was Miss Jessica Felzotto, who was given the honor in 1906. Fifteen men have obtained the degree.

## Eye Stimulation.

A French author is credited with the accidental discovery that eyes exhausted from writing may be rested by gazing a few minutes at bits of bright-colored silk. After experiment he found his ink well with a band of gray-colored silk and now gets relief by gazing at this whenever he dips his pen into the ink.

# Coronation Ceremonies of King Edward VII

His Majesty, King Edward VII., or, according to his proper title, "The King," accompanied by the Queen Consort, reaches the western entrance of Westminster Abbey shortly after eleven o'clock on the morning of the coronation. There he is received by the great officers of state, the noblemen bearing the regalia, the bishops carrying the patina (or broad, shallow dish), the chalice and the Bible. There follows a half hour's delay while the king and Her Majesty, Queen Alexandra, repair to their robing chambers, where they don royal robes of crimson velvet furred with ermine. Close upon noon the organ peals the first notes of the anthem "I was glad," and the same moment the grand procession enters the choir, headed by the prebendaries and Dean of Westminster.

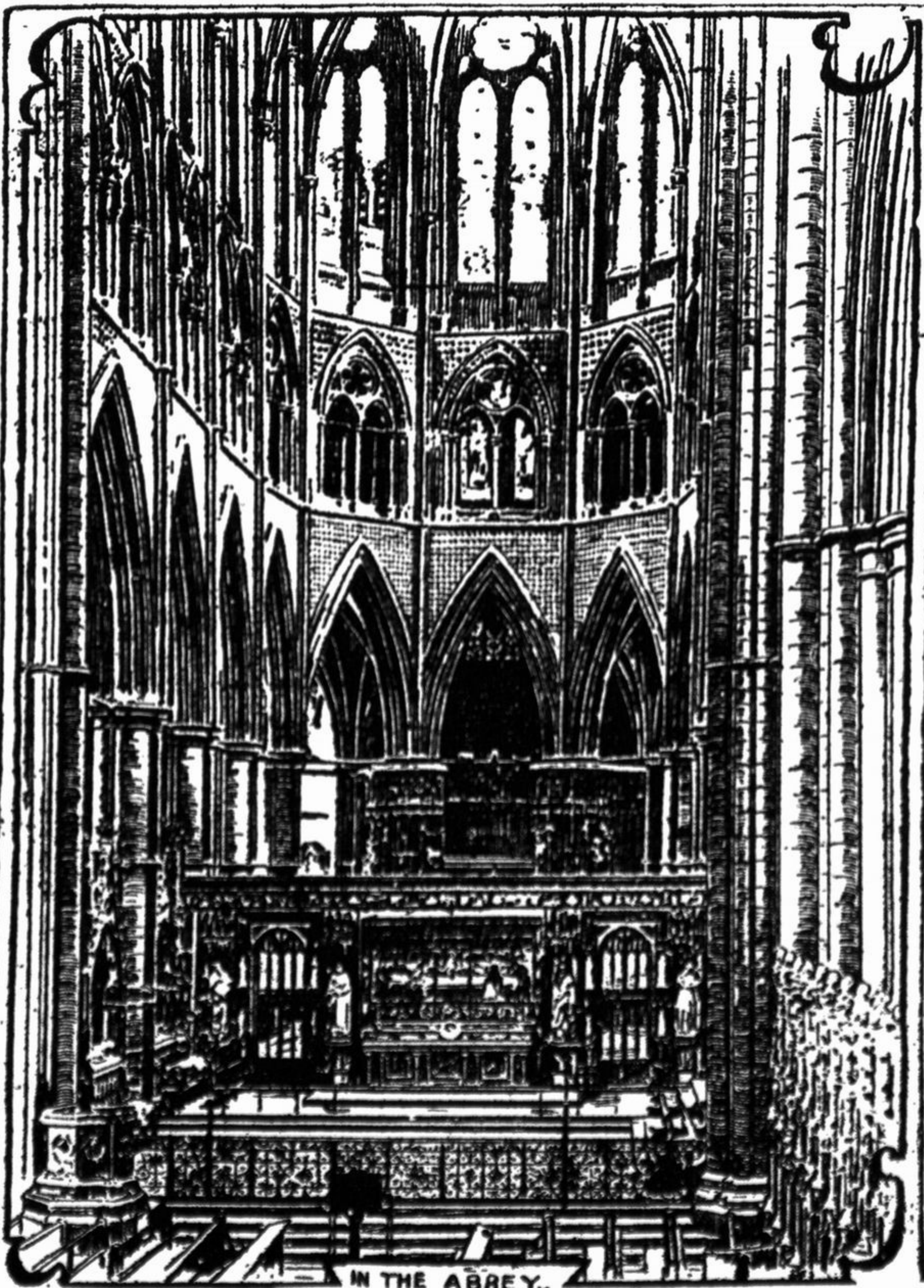
After the abbey clergy come the officers of both royal households, the Archbishop of York, the lord chancellor, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. The last named, indeed, immediately precedes the Queen Consort's regalia, and Queen Alexandra herself, who is followed by the princesses of the blood royal; and apart from the monarch and Her Majesty, he has by far the most important part in the

west side of the theater, the sovereign standing all the while, and turning to the sides of the stage as the archbishop severally asks the question. At every repetition there is an answering volley of cheering from those present, and with the last round of acclamations the trumpets sound and the drums beat. The king then advances to the altar, and kneeling upon the crimson velvet cushion, makes his first offering, an altar cloth of gold, which the archbishop places upon the altar. An ingot of gold, of one pound in weight, is then placed in the king's hands by the lord great chamberlain, and the sovereign in turn delivers it to the archbishop who places it in the oblation basket. After a short prayer the latter takes the regalia from the great nobles gathered round the king, and these, save the lord chamberlain, then retire to their respective places, leaving His Majesty alone. The Litany and Communion Service are then read, and the sermon preached.

Once more the solemnities of the coronation proper re-commence. At the conclusion of the sermon "the oath" is administered to the king, who all this time has worn the cap of state, removes it, and listens to

"Be thou anointed with holy oil, as kings, priests and prophets were anointed. And as Solomon was anointed king by Zadok, the priest, and Nathan the prophet, so be you anointed, blessed, and consecrated king over this people, whom the Lord your God hath given you to rule and govern, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen."

The spurs are then presented to the king by the lord chamberlain, and the sword of state by Lord Salisbury, who, however, according to custom, redeems "it with a hundred shillings," and carries it during the rest of the ceremony. Then follows the investing with the "royal robe and the delivery of the orb," and the "investiture per annulum et baculum"—ring and scepter. The actual coronation follows. The Archbishop of Canterbury offers a prayer to God to bless His Majesty, "and crown him with all princely virtues." The Dean of Westminster takes the crown from the altar, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by other prelates, advances toward the king, and the archbishop, taking the crown from the dean, reverently places it on the king's head. This is the signal for a



IN THE ABBEY.

day's functions. Upon the princesses follow the King Regnant's minor regalia—St. Edward's staff, the golden spurs, the sceptre with the cross, and the three swords. The princes of the blood royal will follow the regalia, and in their train will come the Earl Marshal of England (the Duke of Norfolk), Lord Salisbury bearing the sword of state, the Lord High Constable of England, the sceptre of the dove, St. Edward's crown, borne by the lord high steward, the orb, the patina, the Bible, and the chalice, this latter ornament being borne by the Bishop of London. Then comes the King attended by the Bishops of Bath and Durham, and supported on each side by ten gentlemen at arms with their standard-bearer and Lieutenant.

The king moves toward the chair of homage and the altar, and standing on a carpeted space, which is called "The Theater." After he is seated her Majesty, the Queen Consort, takes her seat in the second (and lower) chair on his left hand, and the actual ceremony begins. The solemnity commences with the recognition of the sovereign's right on the part of the people. The Archbishop of Canterbury advances and the sovereign stands up. The archbishop then, turning his face to the east, says as follows:

"Sir, I here present unto you King Edward VII., the undoubted king of this realm; wherefore, all you who are come this day to do your homage, are you willing to do the same?" This is repeated to the south, north and

loud and enthusiastic cry of "God Save the King!" from every part of the sacred building. At that moment, too, the peers put on their coronets, the bishops their caps, and the king-at-arms their crowns. The benediction is then delivered by the archbishop, and the Te Deum sung by the choir. At the commencement of the Te Deum the king returns to the chair which he first occupied, but is at once "enthroned" or "lifted" into the chair of homage by archbishops, bishops and peers surrounding His Majesty, who then at once receives the tender of fealty from the archbishops and bishops and the homage and fealty from such princes of the blood as are also peers, and from the premier peer of each rank for the peer of the same order, each in succession taking off his coronet, ascending the throne, kissing, or seeming to kiss the sovereign on the left cheek, and touching the crown to signify that he is one of its supporters. While homage is performed the coronation medals are thrown among the people from the three sides of the theater by the treasurer of the household, attended by the garter king-at-arms, and the usher of the black rod.

After the homage an anthem is sung by the choir, and then Queen Alexandra rises from her chair, and, supported by two bishops, advances to the altar, attended by her ladies. After a prayer, the queen, kneeling at the altar, Her Majesty kneels upon a faldstool near St. Edward's chair. Here the Queen Consort's crown is placed upon her head.

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Ironing a Shirt Waist.  
Not infrequently a young woman finds it necessary to launder a shirt waist at home for some emergency when the laundryman or the home servant cannot do it. Hence these directions for ironing the waist: To iron summer shirt waists so that they will look like new it is useful to have them starched evenly with Defiance starch, then made perfectly smooth and rolled tight in a damp cloth, to be laid away two or three hours. When ironing have a bowl of water and a clean piece of muslin beside the ironing board. Have your iron hot, but not sufficiently so to scorch, and absolutely clean. Begin by ironing the back, then the front, sides and the sleeves, followed by the neckband and the cuffs. When wrinkles appear apply the damp cloth and remove them. Always iron from the top of the waist to the bottom. If there are plaits in the front iron them downward, after first raising each one with a blunt knife, and with the edge of the iron follow every line of stitching to give it distinctness. After the shirt waist is ironed it should be well aired by the fire or in the sun before it is folded and put away, says the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Chemical Monster in Dyed Milk.  
Evidence is accruing that the practice of adding artificial coloring matter to milk is increasing. Samples are commonly met with thus colored to give them a rich but false creamy aspect. The natural color of milk bears no relation necessarily to the amount of cream present. It is very desirable that this practice could be stopped. We believe that annatto is the dye commonly employed and it is fortunate that it is harmless, though that fact does not justify the device. Certain coal-tar dyes have, however, been detected in milk, and among them methyl-orange, or, in chemical nomenclature, the sodium salt of dimethyl-amine-azobenzene-sulphonic acid.

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