# THE NATIONAL BONE ARTIST.

## Man Who Mounts Skeletons For the Smithsonian.

## DIVISION CALLED BONE YARD.

J. W. Scollick Mounts Everything From an Elephant to a Bat-Wiring Bones Together Is Delicate Work and Gets on the Nerves-Small Skeletons Mounted Against Glass.

J. W. Scollick of the National museum in Washington is a craftsman in a trade with probably the smallest competition in the world. He is the official "bone man" of the government, or, in other words, the expert in charge of the work of cleaning, articulating and mounting skeletons at the museum, a trade by itself and one requiring infinite patience and great technical skill.

The removal of the National museum from the old to the new building has resulted in the division of skeletons being given larger quarters, and the display has been arranged so as to give it more prominence than ever. To employees of the museum and many visitors this division is known as the "bone yard."

Perhaps there is not the attraction in it for the average visitor that there is in the display of mounted animals and the big cases of ethnological groups, but it is one of the most remarkable collections in the whole museum. Mr. Scollick has been in charge of this work for years. The display in the museum is largely his work.

The exhibits range all the way from a full grown elephant to a herring. Each of them represents weeks of technical skill apparently out of all proportion to the finished result. Though there is more labor in the work, the larger skeletons are the easier to handle. The collection includes elephants rhinoceroses, horses, gorillas, the larger monkeys, all sorts of deer, man himself and many mammals.

Wires, Springs and Braces.

Every bone in these big skeletons has to be drilled and articulated with wires, springs and metal braces. Although these do not show, it is necessary that they be put in place with mathematical precision to give the natural appearance. And then, too, everything must be scientifically just so. It is this which makes the finished work apparently so easy, but in reality so difficult.

The smaller skeletons, like lizards, small fish, bats and snakes, are not held together by wires. Their own cartilage dried in place is used to hold them together. This is one of the many reasons why a skeleton that is dried and mounted is never boiled. Not only would the boiling make the bones fall apart, but it would drive in the grease and make the bones yellow, the one thing not desired. The flesh is taken off the raw bones with a scraper and then the bones are carefully washed clean of grease with gasoline. Acids are not used at all except on rare occasions to remove a stain.

Carelessness is Fatal.

Great care must be exercised in the drying and bleaching of the bones. This cannot be done in a hot sun, because the hot sun will crack the bones, as it will sensoning wood. From a bone artist's viewpoint the best bleaching weather is a gray, drizzling day, when there is no danger of the sun getting in its damaging work. Sometimes the bones develop black streaks, but this can usually be remedied with the use of dilute ammonia.

From beginning to end the whole skeleton cleaning process is tiresome and is said to "get on the nerves" men mounting carried on at the muto prepare some of the small fish skeletons, some of which have to be mounted against glass to keep them properly assembled for display. The bat skeletons, with their long, delicate wings, are also mounted in this way.

## SONG AFFECTS A TRADE.

"Steamboat Bill" Increases Supply of Roustabouts.

"If 'Steamboat Bill' had not made such a hit with the negroes in all parts of the Mississippi valley we steamboat men would have been spared much trouble. As it is, so many want jobs that there are not enough places for them."

This was the observation of a New Orleans steamboat man recently. The chorus of "Steamboat Bill" runs: Steamboat Bill, Steamboat Bill,

Steaming down the Mississippi. Steamboat Bill, a mighty man was he, Steamboat Bill steaming down the Missis-

sippi, Going to beat the record of the Robert E. Lee.

It has not been long since the steamers leaving New Orleans had the greatest difficulty in hiring roustabouts to handle the cargoes of plications, and they attribute the fact to the song "Steamboat Bill."

A mate on one of the river packets arriving in New Orleans said:

"The men say they want to get into the steamhoat business and declare that they are indifferent as to the points on the river touched by the packets or how long they are gone."

### MAY BE BULLFIGHTS ON AMERICAN SOIL

Elaborate Preparations In Salt Lake Include Matadors and Mexican Bulls.

Indications that an attempt is to be made to have real bullfights on American soil are causing much excitement among people in Salt Lake City who are opposed to such things. There are evidences that the same forces which prevented the Johnson-Jeffries fight in Utah will soon be arrayed to prevent a spectacle which they would consider far worse than pugilism.

There were hints of great things to come a few weeks ago when Felix Robert, a French matador, recently arranged with the management of Saltair, a resort on the Great Salt lake, for a great Spanish festival, to begin July 22 and last eight days. No alarming announcement of a real bullfight was made, but it was said that real men of the bull ring would be present, and hints were given that their talent would not be entirely wasted.

Now the management of Saltair has made it known that Robert, who went to Mexico recently to arrange for the toreadors, dancing girls and others for the troupe, has engaged some of the successful bullfighters of the capital itself. More significantly, it is announced that he has purchased a carload of specially bred fighting bulls such as are killed in the rings in Mex-It is remarked by one local paico. per that evidently "something out of the ordinary is in store for people who attend that affair." Except on Sundays evening performances are to be given in an inclosure that certainly closely resembles a bull ring.

It is only since the announcement of the purchase of the specially bred bulls that the church people of Salt Lake City have begun to be aroused. They cannot understand why noted toreadors and fine bulls are brought unless for real bullfights and suspect that there is a purpose quietly to introduce such performances and then attempt to give them in other states.

### PRIZE FOR NEGRO GIRL.

Her Essay on "The Fly" Wins Ten Dollar Gold Piece.

A thirteen-year-old negro girl in New York captured the highest of the several prizes offered by the fly fighting committee of the American Civic association for the best essays on "The Housefly as a Carrier of Disease," written by school children. That is, she was victor among New York children. Similar contests have been conducted in three Kansas cities and sets of prizes awarded there.

Wille Henderson, the lucky little negro girl, is a pupil in the Henrietta school, one of the Children's Aid soclety schools. She got a ten dollar gold piece for her essay, which is an eloquent arraignment of the dangerous

"If we only believed," she writes in her painstaking round hand, "that the filthy fly was the germ carrier we would not spend so much time disinfecting ourselves and avoiding the houses or streets in which disease may be found. Instead we would clean our rooms, make our homes sanitary and inspect the shops from which we buy our food."

One of the western child prize winners won \$10 with a "Biography of a

The woman across the way is losing all her flies," one chapter runs. "She won't give them anything to eat. She covers up her garbage pails. So the files come over to our house, and our children can't get afternoon naps and are always cross, while hers are happy and healthy."

## DEWEY FORGIVES THIEF.

Refuses to Prosecute Servant Who Took Valuable Plate.

Admiral Dewey discovered recently that some beautiful silver plate given worse than any other form of speci- to him by friends and citizens soon after his return from Manila bay had seum. Weeks of cleaning are required disappeared from his home, in K street, Washington. It was worth about \$1,200, but the associations made it far more valuable.

It was several days before Admiral Dewey could bring himself to report the facts to the police authorities, as he suspected the thief was in the confidence of his household. He went over the matter with Major Sylvester. chief of police, and asked that no publicity be given the nexter without his consent. It was not long before the detective bureau recovered the plate, which had been taken by an old and

trusted employee of the admiral. When a report was made to the admiral he said it was the servant's first step in wrongdoing and decided not to prosecute. The culprit broke down under the admiral's repreaches and begged for mercy and was not only forgiven, but continued in the admiral's employ.

Some Name.

The new catalogue of the University of Wisconsin has some interesting statistics regarding the students who attended the university during the year just closed. The longest name borne by any student who attended the infreight. Suddenly, the mates say, stitution is Dermugerditchyan, which they were literally besieged with apbles. The name of Schattschneider runs the sixteen letter name a close second, having fifteen letters, but only three syllables. Third place is held by the name of Kerchensteiner, and fourth by Eichenberger, with fourteen and twelve letters respectively. The shortest name in the university is Li. which is borne by a Chinaman.

## **Practical Fashions**

LADY'S DRESS.



Very simple, but very graceful, this waist is suitable for home or street wear. It can be made quite dressy by selecting some of the light silks so much in vogue, or if a plain effect be sought, serge, cashmers, cheviot, satin, and also such wash fabrics as linen, gingham and pongee will be excellent. The waist of the dress is made in peasant style, with a seamless shoulder, the front closing in surplice fashion over a vest of lace. The back is trimmed with a box plait down the center. The skirt has six gores and opens in front at the side of the center panel. The band trimming at the foot may be used or omitted as pre-

ferred. The pattern (5134) is cut in sizes 32 to 42 inches bust measure. Medium size requires 4% yards of 44 inch material for the dress, 1% yards of 24 inch silk to trim and 1 yard of 18 inch all over with 1% yards of plain 36 inch goods for the guimpe and the yoke and sleeves.

To procure this pattern send 10 cents to "Pattern Department," of this paper. Write name and address plainly, and be sure to give size and number of pattern.

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SUMMER SKIRT.



5428

This design shows a dainty model for a summer skirt. As illustrated it was made of plain white lawn and embroidery, but sheer fabrics, such as marquisette, batiste, printed tulle and the like, and also soft silks, pongee, foulard or messaline may also be employed. The upper part is laid in fine tucks and a band of insertion is placed above a deep tuck below which is a gathered flounce. The opening of the skirt is in the back. Figured material for the upper part and plain band and flounce will also be found effective.

The pattern (5428) is cut in sizes 23 to 30 inches waist measure. Medium size requires 3 yards of 36 inch material, 8% yards of 15 inch flogncing. To procure this pattern send 10 cents to "Pattern Department," of this paper. Write name and address plainly, and be sure to give size and number of pattern.

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A Hint.

He—I met a surgeon I know today Friend—So your boy has left on the street and he tried to cut me Is he down on the farm now?

-What did you do? He Stopped him and advised him not to do that to anybody again. It was too suggestive.

Don't Disturb Him. Manager-We have a boy in the office who whistles at his work. His Wife-Doesn't it drive you mad? Manager-Oh, no; you see he's so

saldom working.

## **HUMOROUS**

We Got a Game On. Maw she don't never realize They's other things sides cakes and ples 'R' else she wouldn't ask I should Split up and carry in the wood-We got a game on

The fellers got the match all made, But maw she seems to be afraid Unless she thinks up things to do She'll spoil a batch of bread or two-We got a game on.

And paw he works his thinker hard And says, "Now, Bill, you take the yard." They seem to figger every ways To use up all my Saturdays— We got a game on. And Sister May she says I'm lazy,

But all the fellers says she's crazy. She wants to send me downtown when The fellers knows it's just at ten We got a game on. Our team's been practicing all week,

And now it's playing like a streak, And if I'm going to hold my place I got to cover second base— We got a game on. I got no time to hold the hose When I got on my baseball clothes.
I want some breakfuss and a dime
And won't be back till dinner time—
We got a game on.

The team from Nora avenue Defeated us sixteen to two, But we ain't scared, and, anyway, We're going to beat that team today— We got a game on. —Spokane Spokesman-Review.

Misdirected Energy.

Jones was just putting on his overcoat when he casually remarked to Mrs. Jones that he would be working overtime that night.

"Don't wait for me, dear," he re-marked. "I may be rather later than usual. But, there; it cannot be help-

At breakfast next morning he was stonily silent, and the stillness of the room was not even broken by the tick-tick of the clock on the mantel-

"Mary, dear," remarked Jones pres ently, "there is something wrong with the clock. I wound it up last night too.'

"Oh, no, you didn't," said Mrs. Jones "What you did wind up was icily. Teddy's musical box, and when you came to bed at 3 o'clock this morning it was playing 'Home, Sweet Home.' -Chicago Journal.

Poor Mixture.

Speaking of the southwest, we heard a story from the Arizona-Mexican border that seems to be timely. One of the Americans damaged by bullets from across the line gave his name as Patrick O'Ryan y Vasquez. When carried into the zone of safety he was found to be armed to the teeth.

"Are you an American or a Mexican?" he was asked.

"Jist enough av an American to shoot on th' slightest provocation," he groaned, "an' jist enough av a Mexican to miss iv'rything Oi shoot at."-Boston Traveler.

Sympathetic.
"By ginger!" roared Bilthers wrathfully when his son informed him that he had flunked at college. "I'm blest if I know what to say. I'-

"I sympathize with you, dad," said Blithers junior feelingly. "That's just the way it was with me when they asked those blasted questions at examination!"-Harper's Weekly.

To Save a Cent. "Old Rumsey always was pretty close.

"Yes, and he always will be. Since he was mixed up in that railroad accident he invariably wants the street car conductor to let him ride for 4 cents on the ground that his cork leg is lighter than a natural one would be."-Chicago Record-Herald.

Luxury Resented.
"Your enemies have circulated a story to the effect that you eat ple

with your knife." "That's all right," replied Senator Sorghum. "I'm glad it didn't occur to them to go among my economical constituents with the report that I pay 10 cents a cut for the pie."-Washington Star.

Regular Communicant. After the sermon on Sunday morn-

ing the rector welcomed and shook hands with a young German. "And are you a regular communicant?" said the rector.

"Yes," said the German; "I take the 7:45 every morning." - Philadelphia Record.

The Penalty of Ignorance. "Every man ought to know how to swim."

"Right you are. If I had learned the art when a boy I wouldn't now be standing on the shore watching some other fellow teaching my girl how."-Detroit Free Press.

Just For a Change. Johnny-Mamma, I wish I had a little sister.

Mamma - Why do you wish that, Johnny-'Cause I'm tired of teasin' the cat.-Catholic News.

Down on the Farm. Friend-So your boy has left college.

Farmer Jones-Yes; he's still down on the farm. He says he wouldn't stay there for a million dollars.-Boston Transcript.

"I say, cawn't you make clothes English style?" "Sure thing! Jim, cut this gentleman's suit two sizes too large all around."-Pittsburg Post.

He Could.

## HOME FOR EACH WIFE.

Kansas Man Finds a Way Out of Peculiar Dilemma

Peter C. Sharp, the Pittsburg (Kan.) octogenarian, with two wives, will live alone. Instead of finding a way to live with two wives under one roof Mr. Sharp will have no wife at all under his roof.

On his broad acres on the outskirts of Pittsburg Mr. Sharp will build two cottages, one on either side of his present little rose covered cottage. In one will live Mrs. Anna Catherine Sharp, seventy years old, the first wife, who was lost in the Chicago fire forty years ago and recently returned. In the other Mrs. Cella Sharp, fifty years old, the Pittsburg wife, will have her home.

The cottage of their common hus band will separate the two wives, and picket fences will separate the three houses. Both women will keep house for themselves, and Mr. Sharp has promised to take his meals with each on alternate days.

Paris to Turin. Ten little aeroplanes sailed down the line. One lost its balance, and then there were

nine. Nine little aeroplanes hit up the gait.

One came a cropper, and then there were eight.

Eight little aeroplanes rose toward heav

One hit the Apennines; then there were Seven swift aeroplanes kept up their tricks.

One bust its popper, and then there were Six little skidders continued to thrive.

One hit a current, and then there were Five little aeroplanes skirted the shore. One fell in Genoa, and then there were

Four little aeroplanes made for the sea. One turned a somerset; then there were

three. Three little aeroplanes long overdue. never did arrive; then there were two.

Two little aeroplanes off with the sun. One hit the Tiber, and then there was

One aviator still holding the pace. He took an express train and captured the race. -St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Middies Sail For Norway. Kiel, July 13.-The battleships Massachusetts, Iowa and Indiana, with the midshipmen from Annapolis

aboard, has sailed for Bergen, Norway.

\$80,500 For Pearl Necklace. London, July 13 .- At a public auction sale the jewels of her grace Lilly, the inte duchess of Marlborough, \$80,-500 was bid for a pearl necklace.

Fort and Fortress. Wife-Is there any difference be-tween a fort and a fortress? Husband -Not much, except that a fortress must be harder to stlence.

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