

Cooperstown Courier.

By E. D. STAIR.

COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., DA. 7.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

GOSSIP FROM WASHINGTON.

The postmaster general finding that postmasters were careless in their treatment of transient newspapers in the mails have issued an order directing all employees of the postoffice department to exercise as much care in handling newspaper packages as in handling letters. Every effort is to be made to get a newspaper package through to its destination. If it bears insufficient postage and the sender is known it is to be returned to him.

It is not impossible that within a very short time there may be some official changes in the postoffice department. The postmaster general has now been in office long enough to have obtained a fair knowledge of the character, ability, judgment and qualifications of his subordinates, and also to have gathered an intelligent idea of the nature and requirements of the duties performed by each one.

It is reported that the president continues inexorable in the defense of the executive order reducing the internal revenue districts and will not change it to suit anyone. The orders of retention are being prepared, but the new arrangement will in no instance be put in force before July 15, and perhaps not so soon as that.

The secretary of the interior has received a letter from E. S. N. Morgan, acting governor of Wyoming, regarding the arrest and punishment of offenders in the Yellowstone park.

Charles M. Walker, of the Indianapolis Times, has been appointed chief clerk under Postmaster General Greham.

RAILROAD RUMBLINGS.

One of the largest and most important railway contracts ever made in Canada was completed at Montreal on the 23d between the Ontario Pacific railroad and Lorenza M. Shute, representing American capitalists. The amount of the contract is between \$11,000,000 and \$12,000,000. The road will be about 700 miles long and will start from Cornwall to Ottawa, thence to Sault Ste. Marie and connect with its American system in conjunction with the Northern Pacific. It not only affords the shortest road from ocean to ocean, but has at each terminus a splendid harbor—Portland, Me., in the East, and Portland, Oreg., in the West. The Northern Pacific will no doubt make arrangements with the Ontario Pacific, thereby distancing all competitors.

The Pennsylvania state auditor has levied upon all the rolling stock of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Harrisburg. He levied upon an engine, seven freight cars, and one passenger car, to satisfy a claim of \$20,000 due the state for back taxes. The road denies the liability and will endeavor to obtain an injunction.

A town has been located at the Missouri falls, where President Hill of the Manitobas, recently made large real estate purchases. It is to be called Great Falls, and will at once be surveyed and platted.

The Manitoba has issued a new coal tariff from Duluth & St. Paul and Minneapolis to all stations on its road, showing material reductions.

GENERAL NEWS GOSSIP.

Valentine's recumbent figure of Gen. R. E. Lee was unveiled at Lexington, Va., in the presence of 6,000 persons. Gen. Wade Hampton acted as chief marshal, and Gen. George Stewart assistant marshal. A procession marched to the cemetery, decorated the grave of Stonewall Jackson, returned and paid a like honor to the grave of Gen. Lee. The exercises were held on the University campus. Gen. Jubal A. Early, the presiding officer, after a few remarks, introduced the orator of the occasion, Maj. J. W. Daniel.

Many wollen mills in New England are shutting down, and the reduction in the consumption must represent over 1,000 sets of cards, which would consume 3,251,000 pounds daily. Some of the mills reported running full time will shut down soon if the dry goods market does not improve. Some mills, however, have increased their productions of goods, and are still working full time.

Dink Davis, the Utica, N. Y., gambler, who won \$60,000 in New York last winter, is at the Chicago races and is a steady winner.

A reunion of Morgan's rebel cavalry will be held in Lexington, Ky., July 24, 25 and 26.

Mrs. Kitson will sue the city of Winnipeg for the death of her husband.

CRIMES AND CRIMINALS.

The names of the passengers on the robbed stage, twenty-five miles from Helena, are John E. E. Beck, George Kasure, George Lamond, John B. Read, William Donovan, Mrs. Kasure, Mrs. Lammond, and Miss Mattie Devoe. The passengers lost very little, as the robbers were in a great hurry and principally anxious to get the treasure box. The ladies were not frightened, nor asked to surrender valuables, although one had jewelry and money to the amount of about \$1,000. The robbers got less than \$100 from the men in their haste, missing several well-filled wallets.

Helena, Mont., Special: Monday afternoon the incoming coach from Deer Lodge was "held up" by two road agents about twenty miles from Helena, in a canyon on the other side of the main divide. John McCormick, post trader at Missoula, a passenger, fired several shots at the robbers, dropping one, who rolled into the brush. The other ran.

Col. B. X. Farinholt of Essex county, Va., was killed recently by a village blacksmith, who had previously quarreled, and the blacksmith making threats the colonel visited his shop, armed with a five pound weight, and had his own skull crushed with a sledge-hammer. Farinholt was a wealthy farmer.

Richard Ingold, a desperado, while evading arrest for felony, was shot twice in the

back by Constable Goodin at Chariton, Mo. He cannot recover.

Thomas Christalton of Indianapolis, was shot dead by Sadie McCorkle, a white woman married to a negro, for slapping her child while he was drunk.

RECORD OF CASUALTIES.

The grand jury of Bozeman, Mont., found three indictments against Nathan S. Porter, Indian agent at Poplar river on the Blackfoot reservation, and two against his deputy, a man named Woodridge. The charge is for receiving and concealing horses stolen by the Indians from white settlers.

Dr. Kerr, city medical health inspector of Winnipeg during the time when the small pox hospital irregularities occurred, has entered an action for \$20,000 against the Times newspaper for alleged libelous charges made against him in a certain article.

The signal office in Omaha, after reporting a fall of one inch in the Missouri river Monday, records a rise of seven inches on Tuesday and nine inches at noon Wednesday last.

George N. Briggs fell from the ferry boat on the Mississippi at Monticello, the 26th and was drowned. Up to 8 o'clock p. m. his body had not been found.

The barn of Daniel Cornell, near Fargo, was burned on the 23d, with eight of his best horses.

Edward Castle of Clear Lake, was gored to death by a bull on the 20th.

The ruin of crops around Alton will reach as high as \$1,000,000.

FOREIGN NEWS NOTES.

London June 27.—The Times' correspondent at Paris says the pope's letter to President Grevy regarding church affairs in France complains of the expulsion of religious orders, the suspension of the salaries of curates, the army bill which militates against the supply of priests, and the arbitrary changes proposed before the concordat committee, thus rendering the church unable to defend its rights against the usurpation of the state. President Grevy's reply will be conciliatory.

Of forty-two deaths at Damietta, Egypt, on the 25th inst., twenty-eight are known to be from cholera. The rest, it is suspected, are from the same malady. Doctors at Damietta refused to inform foreign consuls of the number of deaths there. Steamers from Alexandria were crowded with refugees from Damietta. All steamer berths for a week to come are engaged.

The Land corporation of Ireland, for the occupation and purchase of farms from which tenants had been evicted, met in London. The chairman reported that operations for the year had been beneficial, and that tenants were returning and paying rents. A dividend of 5 per cent. was declared.

At a meeting in Paris to commemorate the death of Garibaldi, several members of the chamber of deputies made speeches, advocating the erection of a monument to Garibaldi on the Franco-Italian frontier as a symbol of the feeling of harmony between the two nations.

Louise Michel was convicted in Paris of inciting riot and pillage, and sentenced to six years' imprisonment and ten years' police supervision. Two other prisoners were sentenced and two acquitted.

The dominion government will make no further sales of land in the Northwest, until the subsidized roads are completed. This is owing to the rapid immigration.

President Grevy is said to have refused a request of Radicals of the chamber of deputies to commute the sentence of Louise Michel.

The difficulty between China and France is adjusted. Li Hung Chang is expected to return to Peking immediately.

The British government announces that it will abandon the criminal procedure bill for the present session.

PERSONAL MENTION.

There are five laymen presidents of leading colleges in the United States—Eliot of Harvard, White of Cornell, Gilman of Johns Hopkins, Angell of Michigan university, and Reid of California university. Yale, Williams, Amherst, Union, Dartmouth and Princeton never had a president who was not a clergyman.

Deacon J. C. Hartsworth of Providence, R. I., has given \$10,000 and private subscriptions adds \$20,000 to be used in the interest of higher education for colored girls in the south. A school for the purpose will probably be built in Richmond.

At New York, on the 52d, George D. Phelps, a lawyer of considerable wealth, and an owner of fast horses, was found dead in the street opposite the Astor house. The death is supposed to have resulted from prolonged dissipation.

Rev. J. A. Gillilan and wife have gone abroad. Mr. G. goes to Scotland, to visit his aged mother, and will be abroad about three months. He has inherited a goodly fortune by the death of an uncle.

Dr. C. H. Orton of the south side of Milwaukee, is again in Cupid's toils. A Miss Maud Holman of Denver, is now on the doctor's trail, and says that he proposed to marry her. The girl's friends are raising a great hubbub.

Maj. Blaine, paymaster in Montana, and brother of ex-secretary Blaine, had a narrow escape from drowning in the Musselshell while crossing it in an ambulance.

The degree of doctor of divinity has been conferred on Rev. J. F. Chaffee, of Minneapolis by the Illinois Wesleyan university.

William M. Everts values his estate at Windsor, Vt., when the assessor comes around, at \$60,561.

Acting Assistant Surgeon W. H. Hawkes, U. S. A., has resigned, to take effect the 30th inst.

Ex-Gov. Lippitt of Rhode Island, says Gov. Sprague is never to return to politics again.

Gossip says Justice Harlan chews a quarter of a pound of plug tobacco a day.

Return of Louis Riel to Manitoba.

Winnipeg Special: Louis Riel, whose name is prominently connected with the history of Manitoba, as the leader of an insurrection, some six years ago, has arrived here from Montana. His five years' sentence of banishment expired two years ago. He was called upon by a large number of half-

breed friends, who still hold their chief as they call him, with respect and admiration. Sunday he went to St. Boniface and attended church. He paid a visit to St. Jean Baptiste. Riel expresses an intention of going back to Montana but it is hardly thought that he will carry this out.

PUGILISTIC PARSONS.

Two Ministers of Hartford, Ct., Have a Desperate Fight, Fall into a Baptismal Font and Each Attempts to Drown the Other.

HARTFORD, Ct., Special Telegram, June 27.—Rev. Dr. Parker and the Rev. Mr. Everts indulged in a fierce fight in the baptismal font of the South Baptist church Sunday afternoon. For a long time Congregationalism has been striving to capture the church. Rev. Mr. Everts is pastor of the much coveted prize, while Rev. Dr. Parker is the leader of Congregationalism. It seems that Dr. Parker conceived the purpose of baptizing a score or more of young children in the baptistry of the South Baptist A procession was formed. At the head of the procession was a double quarted by a hand organ which had recently been repaired at considerable cost. Besides nearly 200 children in the procession, there were fully that number of adults, men and women, mostly the parents of the children. The procession entered and took possession. By this time the sectarian had notified Rev. Mr. Everts, who quickly sent for the deacons. Meanwhile Rev. Dr. Parker and his crowd had turned on the water, which was rapidly filling the great tank used for baptisms. Children were prepared for receiving the rite and Rev. Dr. Parker was excitedly spurring on his followers in what he called a battle for Congregationalism. Presently Rev. Mr. Everts arrived, followed by his deacons. He protested with Rev. Parker against the outrageous intrusion, but the reverend doctor simply replied that he was determined to finish what he had come to do. Before the great tank had filled, the spacious edifice was resounding with inquiries, protestations and recriminations. The invading party could not be persuaded to leave. While the women and elders of the two congregations were

MAKING PANDEMONIUM of the place, the two ministers carried on a bitter war of words between themselves, Dr. Parker proceeding all the while with baptizing the children, who stood about with blanched faces and forms that shook with fright. Suddenly a struggle between the two sides broke out in earnest. An indescribable scuffle took place. The shrieks of the children, the wailing of infants and the imprecations of women mingled with the angry cries of pastors and officers of the contending congregation. Many women fainted, and many had their Sunday clothes almost torn off them. Dr. Parker and Mr. Everts had a terrible struggle. They beat each other and tore each other's hair frightfully, and finally fell into the immense tank, firmly grasping each other. Each strove to drown the other. So busy were the other fighters that they could not observe the accident that happened to their pastors. Some of the peace makers turned their attention to the struggling pastors. It was found impossible to tear them apart, so they were taken out, locked in a fierce embrace, and both unconscious. They were finally separated, though they clung to each other with the tenacity of drowning men, and resuscitated. After a little talking the ministers were reconciled, and it was a source of great rejoicing to the Baptists that Dr. Parker had been completely immersed. That several were not killed in the fearful struggle is a miracle. Many are confined to their beds from the effect of fright. Both clergymen are in a sad condition mentally and physically. The unfortunate affair has scandalized the whole Christian community.

Threatened Barb Wire War.

A large meeting of the barb wire manufacturers of the country, licensees of the firm of Washburn & Moen, Worcester, Mass., was held at the Tremont house, Chicago, throughout Thursday. Forty delegates, representing every state in the Union except California, were present. The discussion, of a private but important nature, was on the propriety of paying further royalty to the Washburn company for the privileges enjoyed by the licensees. This matter has come up for consideration in view of the conflicting decisions—on the one hand of Judge Blodgett and Drummond, of the Illinois court, and on the other, of Judges McCrory and Love, of Iowa. The old barb wire association, known as the Manufacturers' Equitable, is dead, and in the hands of a receiver, but it is not unlikely that the manufacturers will prepare to conserve the interests of their trade by the formation of a new association. The history of the grievance in brief is as follows: Some years ago a man in central Illinois invented a machine for twisting wire, which has become a very essential element in the manufacture of barbed-wire fences. A Massachusetts firm purchased the entire rights of the inventor, and he had for several years a monopoly of the patent rights. The firm immediately refused the use of the machine to any other unless a large royalty were paid upon each machine used. Finally many establishments in the country became the licensees of the Massachusetts firm, and it was reaping an immense profit from the business. The licensees finally became tired of paying a large percentage of their profits in royalties, and about fifty suits have grown out of the trouble. These were generally decided in favor of the Worcester firm. Last week, however, the Massachusetts firm struck a snag in the adverse decision of a couple of Iowa courts, which held the patent to be invalid and the monopoly unwarranted. The oppressed concerns took courage at this and decided to make a formal organization and press the matter vigorously, until they get what they consider their rights.

The Pension Commissioner Disappointed.

Washington Special: Commissioner Dudley is finding that \$100,000,000 is a good deal of money to pay out in one year, and he cannot accomplish the task. Taking into account the return to the credit of the pension account at the beginning of the year of some \$15,000,000 not used last year, the net expenditures from the appropriation for the current year will not much exceed \$85,000,000. He started out with a programme to use up the unexpended \$15,000,000 turned over from last year and \$85,000,000 besides. He finds that such a vast sum cannot be distributed. Although the office might allow the cases, the agencies cannot check it out to the individuals. The result will be nearly \$20,000,000 unexpended to be carried forward to next year, when it will be deducted from the estimate for the next appropriation. Gen. Dudley will be disappointed in not being able to dispose of all the average cases as he promised, but it was beyond the range of possibility to make such a vast expenditure with the present machinery for payments.

Fine Cattle for the Northwest.

A London cablegram of the 24th says: A splendid lot of cattle left Glasgow this week consigned to Mr. J. J. Hill of St. Paul. It includes fourteen cows and heifers from the herds of the earl of Strathmore, the earl of South Esk and Mr. Ferguson of Kinloch. They cost nearly \$20,000. With them

is a two-year-old bull of Lord Fitz Harding's, which Mr. Hill bought for \$5,000. This is the handsomest lot of cattle that ever left Scotland for America. Mr. Hill has a fine stock farm near Hotel Lafayette, Lake Minnetonka which is already stocked with the choicest blooded horses, cattle and sheep. When his stock becomes more numerous it is his design to distribute at certain seasons of the year, some of the best among the principal towns on the Manitoba line, for breeding purposes, and thus improve the stock of the country.

Northwestern Postal Changes.

The following postmasters have been commissioned:

Iowa—George Greenwood, Mantevo; Charles G. Perkins, Onana.

Minnesota—Hugh Owen, West Union. Dakota—Milton M. Noah, Forestburg. Wisconsin—Dunca. McLennan, Rib Lake.

Montana—J. Kinney, Stuart; James F. Chamberlain, Grange.

Postoffices established—Dakota: Glen Ulltine, Mantor county, Minnesota: Verdall, Jackson county.

Postoffices discontinued—Dakota: Langdon, Miner county, Montana: Judge, Chateau county; Primus, Gallatin county, Wisconsin: Leland, Sauk county.

Heavy Lumber Failure in Wisconsin.

Merrill, Special: W. Wright, successor to McCord & Wright, lumber manufacturers has made a voluntarily assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The bond of the assignee, Henry A. Jewell of Oskosh for \$400,000 has been signed by Senator Sawyer and Mr. McCoy. As near as can be ascertained the assets are in excess of the liabilities to a considerable extent. The creditors seem to realize this, apparently having uneasiness, and feeling that they will be paid in full. It is thought that the liabilities are about \$200,000, and the assets \$300,000 more. The mill property has been looked upon by the lumbermen as one of the finest in the Northwest, and certainly has advantages and surroundings which would naturally make it such.

Embezzlement in Boston.

Arthur H. Blaney, cashier and head-book-keeper of the Massachusetts Loan and Trust company, has confessed to embezzling \$44,000 of the company's funds owing to mining and other stock speculations. The first intimation of anything wrong was on the afternoon of the 18th inst., when it was found that Blaney was \$7,000 short in his accounts. His attention being called to the discrepancy, he said he had taken it for temporary use and would restore it the next morning. He did so, and being questioned about other possible discrepancies, assured the president of the company that his deficit did not exceed \$7,000. It was deemed best to suspend Blaney. Experts soon discovered the defalcation. His mode of covering up discrepancies was when a customer drew \$5,000 or more, and pocket the difference.

McGeoch's \$600,000 Failure.

A Chicago dispatch says: The lard failure of McGeoch, Everingham & C. grows worse and worse as the actual state of affairs is developed. It was first put at \$1,000,000, then \$2,500,000. Two days ago J. R. Fensbee, receiver of the firm, said the liabilities would exceed \$5,000,000. In an interview he said the liabilities are over \$6,000,000. Of this sum about \$4,000,000 is due to Chicago banks, which are secured by lard collateral. The remaining liabilities of over \$2,000,000 are distributed in large and small sums, the largest liability to any individual being \$126,000 and there are several of \$100,000. This estimate does not include money due Milwaukee parties. Only a week before the failure \$850,000 was received from a Milwaukee firm and all swallowed up in margins. For the settlement of accounts outside of the banks, Mr. Fensbee says there are only assets of \$50,000 and the office fixtures.

Crowded Moscow.

At an early hour this morning I was awakened by the measured tramp of feet beneath my window, and, on looking out, I beheld a dense contingent of the Moscow Fire Brigade, scarcely to be distinguished from regular soldiers, packed into a huge tribune at the entrance to the Kremlin, and doing their best to test the sustaining powers of the wooden structure. But it stood the severe strain, and off the heavy, gray-coated men marched to continue their experimental labors in the galleries on the route of triumphal entry, and their number is great. Balconies, roof-tops, domes, steeples, windows, and every inch of out-of-sight space that might afford precarious foothold for the twittering swallow, have all been converted into vantage ground to view the Czar of all the Russias pass on Tuesday from the Petrofsky Palace, just outside the city; to the Palace of the Kremlin, in the heart of it. What the citizens of Moscow are now preparing with all their might and main to do may be well described in the words of Marullus, the tribune, to the commoners of ancient Rome: "Many a time and oft, Have you climb'd up to walls and battlements, To towers and windows, yea to chimney-tops: Your infants in your arms and there have sat. The live-long day, with patient expectation, To see great Pompey pass the streets of Rome." But the citizens of Rome surely never paid such extravagant prices for windows, roofs, and chimney-tops as are now being eagerly offered for visual coigns of vantage by the citizens and strangers now within these gates. One thousand rubles, 400 rubles, 100 rubles are specimens of the revenue items now accruing to the householders of Moscow from the anxiety of the public to witness the imposing pageant of Tuesday next.

The flour and saw mill in Delano, Wright Co. was destroyed by fire on the 27th inst. The building was the property of O. O. Healey, and insured for \$3,000 in different companies, which covered two thirds of the loss.

Harper's Weekly knows a book agent who earned \$25,000 commission last year.

GOING TO CHURCH.

The Hardship of It Early in the Present Century.

In the "Memoirs of John A. Dix," just published, the following autobiographical experience is related, giving a picture of the discomforts incident to worship in the "meeting house" during the first decade of this century. The village of Boscawen, G. H., furnishes the material for the sketch:

The period was approaching when I was to be sent away from home for my classical education; but, before I enter upon it, let me cast back some glances at my native village. I have spoken of the meeting house at one of its extremities. The society was congregational in its form. It acknowledged no earthly head. I had a distinct idea of this peculiarity in its doctrine from the conversation which I had at my father's house. My mother was a sincere, devout and trustful Christian. My father was a believer, but not a member of the Church. I sometimes thought his views did not accord with those of the preacher; but he said nothing to warrant such an inference.

No man was more regular than himself in his attendance on divine worship on Sundays, and they were the only days in the year for which any religious exercises were observed, except the first Monday of every month, on which evening a prayer-meeting was held. I derived no agreeable impression whatever from these religious observances. The meeting-house was, like most others of that day, painted white, covered with shingles, full of windows, with plain, plastered walls inside; it was cold and dreary in its aspect within and without. It had no window blinds; and as the sun moved round the building in summer the congregation moved about in their pews, to escape from the burning rays. The winters were awful; the thermometer often fell twenty or thirty degrees below zero. There was no fireplace or furnace, not even a stove. To this arctic temperature we were exposed two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. The sermon was almost always an hour long, and the prayers and psalms, and reading of the scriptures, occupied about the same time. In my whole life I have never suffered so much from cold. My mother always took a foot-stove with her, and it was more frequently under my feet than hers. In the sleigh on our way to meeting we were always comfortable, for we were enveloped in buffalo-skins. But we could not take them with us into the meeting-house. When the wind was high the cold was merely insupportable. The window sashes vibrated and rattled in their loose frames, and the cold air poured upon us through numberless inlets. My feelings were anything but devotional; and I pray God to forgive me the many secret irreverences of which I was guilty. The preacher was a learned and conscientious man; but I hated his long discourses (drawn out, as it seemed to me, with a malicious perverseness) when I was perishing with cold. The strangest speculation took possession of my mind. I had read in some book in my father's library that certain holy men had voluntarily submitted to the severest inflictions. One, whose name does not occur to me, lived on the top of a column for a number of years, exposed to all the vicissitudes of the seasons. Supposing him to have lived in a good climate, I wondered whether he suffered as much as our preacher, holding forth by the hour in an atmosphere fifty degrees below freezing point. I wondered whether the latter, like the holy father, was acting on a principle of self-infliction, or whether he was punishing his congregation for their stubbornness in sin. If his motive was merely personal, then I wondered why he could not dismiss the congregation and perform the penance by himself instead of making us the companions and the victims of his martyrdom. I could not help secretly wishing on these wretched occasions, that he might freeze his feet, that his arm might become so benumbed with cold that he could not gesticulate, or that his tongue might cleave to the roof of his mouth. It was not because I had any malice against him in my heart, but because he was, by protracting his sermons so unreasonably, inflicting on me sufferings too great to be borne. I knew him better in after years, and became sincerely attached to him; and if he had not been ignorant of all that passed through my mind during those winter services, I would have confessed my uncharitableness and implored his forgiveness. But there never could have been any reconciliation between me and the meeting-house. I always detested it; I never looked upon it as the house of God. Town meetings and elections were held in it. I had seen it desecrated by festooning in the heat of political conflicts; I had heard its bare walls ring with tumultuous laughter, when some man, who had been prosperous in money-making and assumed airs, was elected hog-constable by acclamation. These scenes were too often uppermost in my thoughts when the sermon was in progress, and a devotional frame of mind was impossible.

Half a Million Base Ball Bats.

New York Star. The largest manufactory of ball bats is at Hastings, Mich., where one hundred men are employed. Half a million bats are supposed to be the demand for the present year. Ash is the staple bat wood. A proportion of fancy, and necessarily high-priced bats are made of cherry. Including the different woods and sizes, there are twenty-two styles of bats made for the trade, ranging in price at retail from ten cents for a juvenile article up to \$1.50 for an aesthetic cherry bat. The Hastings factory will use in the neighborhood of 350,000 feet of ash, 250,000 feet of basswood, and 50,000 feet of cherry lumber this season, which means about 2,500 gross, or thirty car loads, of bats. Another bat factory at South Bend, Ind., will consume about 125,000 feet of lumber, and one at Grand Rapids, Mich., 75,000 feet more.

A New Catholic Church Edifice is to be Built This Season at Brownville, Todd County.

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