the Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, The Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends hearing on current topics, but its rule is that these must be signed, for publication, by the writer's frail name; and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to cultorial revision.

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TWELVE PAGES.

SCRANTON, APRIL 27, 1901

Another exhibition of implicit faith In the resources of the country is given in the hope of a number of English capitalists who still believe that they will realize something upon the repudiated Southern state war bonds.

Circle or No Circle.

LSEWHERE appears a letter from the Hon. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, chairman of the Union committee for the promotion of ballot reform and the merit system in Pennsylvania, in which reasons are given why the Pennsylvania Bailot Reform association insists upon abolishing the party circle or group system of marking ballots. He contends that the party circle

is unconstitutional because it interferes with free and equal elections, and cites a ruling in a California case to prove that it is against public policy. Until such a ruling is made and sustained in Pennsylvania, the California citation is naturally of academic interest only. We have not studied it, but suspect it would take a strong argument to convince us that, in a government founded on the party idea and impossible of continuance on a republican basis without parties, it is against public policy to permit those favorable to party regularity to have the privilege of voting straight tickets conveniently, if they so desire, Differing from our distinguished correspondent, we think the question of numbers in this connection is essenthat when the majority, as at present mayor a party circle as a convenience in voting, they should have it, all the name readily in view of the fact that giving it to them does not take from the minority of independent voters or party ticket cutters any essential privilege or any fundamental Elections are now free and canal because each voter has unrestricted option either to mark in the circle or to mark in the various squares. There is really more freedom now than there would be if twothirds of the voters should be comrelled, against their will, to mark each name separately at the compulsion of the other third.

That in time most voters could be taught to mark a no-circle ticket with approximate accuracy we do not doubt. But what is the use of going through another period of change and experiment when the end to be gained is only to still the clamor of a minority, which might not be satisfied even then? Certainly Mr. Woodruff will not contend that removing the circle would bring out to primaries and elections those now accustomed to regrain away and find fault; or confer upon the independent voters a greater numerical power than they possess already. Nor can we see how any gain for righteousness would come through making ballot marking harder than it is. If the wish is to disfranchise illiterate voters, do so openly and fairly as a proposition by itself, calling it franchise, not ballot, reform,

Prospects for peace in South Africa are more promising. When the correspondents begin to discover threetailed comets in the heavens it is evidence that there is nothing exciting to report on the battle field.

As to Pacific Cables. ECENT Oftawa advices state that after the vicissitudes of fourteen years the British-Imperial plan of an all-Aritish Pacific cable has finally been assured. The contract for its laying has been let. The details of arrangemems for laying have been published. The contractors undertake to have the entire line from Vancouver's island. British Columbia, to New Zealand and the Australasian colonies completed and in working order by December of next year. The \$10,000,000 which is the estimate of approximate cost, is to be loaned by the Imperial government, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the Australasian colonies each guarantee-

Canada at least, according to the Ottawa dispatches, believes that the laying of this cable, to be absolutely under British control, will delay for many years the construction of the proposed Pacific cable by the United States or under its control. Great Britain is said to hold the same view. The argument on which they base this belief is that for a long time there will not be business enough to make two cable lines pay.

The single fact that the line contracted for is to be absolutely under British control, makes more imperative the laying of a cable from California via Hawaii, Tutuila in the Samoan islands, and Guam, to the Philippines, also to Japan and China. This last connection will be all the more

proposition to acquire the cable line already in existence from Australia via Singapore, to Hong Kong,

The United States government cannot afford to be dependent on the British and British-Canadian governments for telegraphic communication - at all times, and under all circumstances of peace, diplomatic troubles, or actual war-with its own Pacific dependencies and with China and Japan. Whether the United States' Pacific cable, which must be laid at an early day, shall become at once commericially remunerative or not-as it very soon would do, despite the expressed Canadian hope to the contrary-it will become a hundred-fold a necessity to the government of this country with the existence of a cable absolutely under the control of another government. That is a patent fact, It needs no arguing.

Chief Need of the Navy.

THE WASHINGTON correspondence takes note of the indifference shown by the naval militia of both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and of the strong argument thus furnished for the establishment of a trained naval reserve. Secretary Long's purpose is declared to be to lay especial stress in his next report upon the necessity existent for congress to direct the establishment of such a reserve.

The utter want of interest in the duties they are supposed to have undertaken "will prevent the organizations of naval militia from taking the usual cruise on a regular man-o-war during the coming summer." So says the report.

The chief need of the navy is men. and since the time has assuredly arrived when the United States must be a nation with a strong navy, if it is to hold its own at all, henceforth, there is clear common sense in the demand for a trained naval reserve from which the navy could in time of conflict be immediately augmented by competent, thoroughly instructed men. A reserve, this should be, which, as specified by Lleutenant Commander Sutherland, who is in immediate charge of naval militia matters, should include all classes that have to do with the sea. The minimum term of enlistment for such reserve, to be of use, he puts at five years.

Minister Conger probably believes that the Iowa fences are in greater need of attention at present than affairs at Pekin.

OLLOWING our recent resume of the library words lished by its warden in Chieago's prison-a work that we Party Circle and again ask if there are none to start on an equally effective basis in the prison here—there comes most appropriately the brief account of what that admirable and devoted woman, Mrs. Ballington Booth, is accomplishing in what we call homes of hope. Hope hall, No. 1, and Hope hall, No. 2, she names them. The first one is at Flushing. Long Island, and is a small farm colony. The second is out in the suburban region of Chicago.

She refers to them, in her lectures and appeals for their maintenance, as a part of the prison work of the Voiunteers of America. But it is through her own untiring personal efforts that they are actually sustained. She is as much both the soul and body of the prison work of the 'Volunteer Army" as Mrs. Elizabeth Fry was of the almost miraculous prison reform work accomplished in Newgate and in the whole prison system of England in the early decades of the nineteenth century.

Mrs. Booth's prison work was begun in systematized fashion almost immediately after her last visit to Scranton. In 1896, largely through the initial interest in her work aroused by the metropolitan newspapers' accounts of it, she was able to secure the Flushing farm and house. Over one thousand discharged prisoners coming out into the world without a place, or a foothold for honest work, anywhere else in it, have been received, sheltered and fed, at Hope hall, No. 1. They did what work the farm could give them to do until employment could be found for them. It has saved by far the largest proportion of them from return to crime.

In Hope hall, No. 2, the Record-Herald's investigation explains that "the parole system of Illinois makes it posparole system of Illinois makes it pos-niake use of it as a time saver. If we consider sible for the home to work with the that the proper course in legislation is to constate officials," That is, "some responsible person must guarantee employment for a year in order to secure a away with this much abused circle, and I parole." As Hope hall gives a free small be glad, with your permission, to print home until employment is secured for those whom it takes, the guarantee is modified to fit the case. In the two years and a half during which this refuge has been open the number received has been about 450, and of these about 70 per cent, have become honest, | ter of April 24, in reference to the principles industrious and law-abiding." While in Hope hall the men do the work of every kind, but afternating in the duties of the house, laundry and poultry yard, so that one-half of the average number of twenty to twentyfive inmates are free through the day

to look for work. It is rare, says the paper from which we quote, for any to have to depend on the home for three months unless on account of illness. "The parole system, of course, requires a monthly report of the status of each man, but the rules are not irksome. The inmates are forbidden to use tobacco or profane language at the home. They must be in by dark in order that no false charges may hold against them; and they are required to attend two religious services a week." The neighbors in the scattered suburb in which Hone hall stands have, it is added, nothing but kind words for the institution and its mission. That is in itself a certificate of the successful manner

in which it is doing its work. Mrs. Ballington Booth makes an earnest appeal for subscribers to the extent of \$500 a month, for the more regular and substantial support of the two homes, in order to leave her free to do more work in the prisons.

How that delicate frame of hers is upborne by the spirit to do what she accomplishes is the marvel. The belp she asks ought to be forthcoming, and a necessity, because of the British in the two states in which the homes

are. Then other states may well stir illiterate voter, causing an increase of helpers Even on a mere money basis it costs less to help those who have "gone wrong" to an honest life than it does to leave them to go back into bad ways or to push them there.

Although the Glasgow exposition which opened this week has failed of any official recognition from this country, and the American exhibits are reported to be few, the managers of the exposition are said to be "looking confidently for large support from American visitors." The Glasgow enterprise has, as a matter of course, been largely rowded by the coming Pan-American exposition out of the thought of this country. In some quarters there has been sharp criticism for losing the opportunities for showing the superiority of American manufactures before multitudes of European visitors. Yet from the very same sources we hear of "the bitter jealousy" stirred up in Great Britain and on the continent of Europe by that very superiority. Why, then, mourn over neglected opportunities?

The Philadelphia Ledger says that conservative estimates place the number of persons rendered homeless by the floods in the Ohio valley at more than 11,000. The total property loss is estimated at \$2,745,000, which is not so very much in this land of big figures; but there is every reason to suppose that most of the homeless ones have lost their all, and a millionaire could lose no more. Our contemporary adds: They will need food, clothing and help to make a fresh start in life, and they cannot have these things too soon. The promptest charity for them is the best. Can the Red Cross be made, as often before, the medium of giving? There should be an organized, responsible center for receiving and promptly discributing money and supplies.

The Italians in Philadelphia propose memorial fund, to erect a manument o Verdi in Fairmount park. The initial step will be the giving of a great concert on Monday evening next in the Academy of Music in that city. The entire musical and cultured public of he Pennsylvanian metropolis is being stirred to interest which, it is hoped will result in rolling the fund up speedily to an amount sufficient for a peautiful and appropriate memorial.

Hon. Chauncey F. Black talks like a man with a third party scheme on his

Ballot Reform

THE FOLLOWING correspondence is self-explanatory; Hon, Clinton Rogers Woodcuff, Girard Building,

Philadelphia. ircular beginning: "There can be no thorough allot reform without the grouping of the candidates under the respective offices, and the aboli tion of the circle." You request its publication, and I would gladly comply were it not that that it seems hardly necessary to go over the

Personally I think it no more than fair to say to you that I have been unable to accept your view of the supposed gain to come to the peoole of the commonwealth through doing away

In Lackawanea county, except on rare occasions, a very large proportion of the voters, in-cluding first class citizens belonging to all political parties, vote their tickets straight. While I am not able to cite exact statistics with reference to our county, it is a matter of common knowledge that the percentage of straight party votes at an ordinary general election is very much in excess of the percentage of ballots which are cut. I should say that as a rule 80 to 85 per cent, of our citizens ordinarily vote this county for Dr. Swallow showed that when a voter desires to be independent of party ties the present arrangement of the ballot presents no obstacles to that purpose.

a party batter, but a convenience and time saver. To me, the proposition that it shall be abolished looks like an effort on the part of a relatively amall percentage of the voting population to force the gratification of their hobby at the cost and inconvenience of a large majorthe abolition of the circle can be expected to justify itself in better political results. It would not only confuse the illiterate voter, causing an increased tree of helpers at the polls or it would also, as experience teaches, worry and armoy a large proportion of the well read voters who have become accustomed to the party circle, and in the majority of elections serve the greatest good of the greatest unmber I should be glad to have you explain upon what ground you so strenuously insist upon doing

Livy S. Richard.

Philladelphia. April 25. ton, Pa. Bear Mr. Richards. I have your interesting left embodied in the Pennsylvania Ballot

In the first place, permit me to say that I redidde as unconstitutional. Section 5 of Article 1 of the present constitution provides What elections shall be tree and equal." Elections are no free new equal when the official ballot discriminates between candidates on a party ticket and cambidates on an independent ticket; nor when 't discriminates between the straight party voter and the independent voter. In other words, any recognition of a party or any advantage given to party voters by one law is against public noticy and unconstitutival. This has been beld in a California case construing a clause similar to ours in the California constitution. Of course, it is impossible to determine what aroportion of the voters of Pennsylvania desire a cut their ticket as no statistics on this point have ever been gathered. If I may be permitted to judge from my own experience I should that the proportion in some sections of Philadelphia was much nearer 50 per cent, than 15 but I do not regard the question of the number of voters desiring to out their tickets is at all pertinent or essential. The feeling that I have in regard to the matter is that every voter should be required to take the same

crimination of any kind whatsover in favor of any group of candidates, such as we have with The argument of the party circle being a con and time-saver does not appeal to me It may be a convenience and time-carer to agree that a certain group of men shall make our nominations and do our voting, but this does not make such a course right. The matter of tallot reform as represented in the Redford bill is by no means a bobby, but a sincere desire on the part of those interested in the welfare of the state to have the machinery of values. state to have the machinery of voting made abso-lutely fair and equitable.

The answer to the argument that the Redford bill. If enacted into law, would only confuse the worse than wasted.

ther voter, and that there should be no dis-

themselves to similar work in this at the polls or result in a considerable distranchusetts, where a similar law is in force and effect. This experience shows that there is neither disfranchisement nor confusion; on the contract there are less mistakes and fewer opportunitie for mistakes because there is only one way of marking the ballot, whereas we now have two

> I quite agree with you that the proper basis of legislation is to conserve the greatest good to the greatest number; but the greatest go of the greatest number can only by a strict adherence to the al declaration that elections must be fair and equal. If the means by which the sovereign people are to express their will are not adequate nor fair nor just nor equitable, republican institutions are to that extent seri-ously icopardized. In other words, we must have our election machinery absolutely fair and free from discrimination of any kind, and as I have said before, any system which gives any advantage, no matter how slight, to any set of voters, or another set of candidates, is a serious infringement of fundamental constitutions

That the Bedford bill will not confuse the illiterate or cause inconvenience, is also answered by the experience of those counties where the Crawford county system of primary election is in vogue. this system provides for the grouping of cambidates under the various offices and I have heard of no complaint on the part of the voters that, the system is either confusing or inconvenient. On the contrary, the general opinion is that the Crawford county system is ne of the best that has thus far been devised for primary elections, I think the experience of for primary ejections. I think the experience to Lackawaina county a year ago when the voters selected eleven out of eighty-nine candidates on a ballot with candidates grouped according to offices affords a conclusive answer.

Of course, throughour all of this argument, I have not mentioned the fact that every man should be willing to take ample time and pain-to exercise his right of suffrage and that he has no right to ask that he be given any advantage man who is not willing to study his ballot carefully, with a view to indicating his electoral choice, hatdly deserves one right. Heretofore we have treated the voter as if he were anxious to discharge hastily his rights as a citizen and to facilitate the shifting of the responsibility which the law and the constitution have placed upor im to the shoulders of some one clar. Very truly yours.

Weekly Letter on Municipal Affairs

XLVI.-BOSTON A CENTER OF MUNICIPAL SOCIALISM.

THE CITY OF Boston is more English in its civic practices than any other American numicipality. The latest freak of this kind is a proposal to establish a crematory for disposition of the unclaimed pauper dead, and such other human bodies as would naturally find a resting place in the "potter's field." Besides this, it is intended to open the plant for general use of the public on the payment of a small fee, and, it is anticipated, that the revenues will exceed the expenditures. Several cities of Great Britain, including certain boroughs of London, have had similar plants in successful opera-tion for the past ten years, therefore Boston thinks she can duplicate the undertaking with

do not concur with the municipal authorities have no particular apticathy to this method of getting rid of the dead-indeed, they favor the system-they do not think that the plant can be ron on business principles, that it is too grave an enterprise to put into the hands of the frivolous aldermen, and, therefore, they urge, that it be left to the enterprise of private parties, Since the failures of the municipal ice plant and the electric lighting, construction and renunicipal ownership schemes proposed by the ocialists of the town. In both these horough investigation revealed a padded pay roll, and not only that, but a lot of incompetents who did more damage than good wherever they eformed any work. They were kept on the paycard leaders. For this reasons opposition is more difficult to overcome than formerly, and it is quite likely this latest proposal will be defeated, Although Boston is infested with ward beelers nd machine politicians who are "in it" for the poils, she is not so boss ridden as other cities f her size. But machine rule has been, and is enough in evidence to threaten the life of certain usitations, and particularly that of the muni-

When the plant was created a large printing house supply company which had a large overplus of out-of-date and comparatively useless material, with a discriminating application of "grease" to certain portions of the municipal machinery, succeeded in loading stock on to the city of Boston, and so the scheme was launched

inder unfair conditions, Upon the election of Mayor Hart, a most carehing investigation was made, beginning with vere put out of existence because they were found to be worse than useless—a positive ex-pense to the city. The printing plant, according o the report of the expert accountant recently life, and Mayor Hart determined to eliminate politics from its control so far as possible. The encome of a recent episode in this connection demonstrates the mayor's sincerity of purpose plant. One of the aldermanic leaders called on the superintendent of the printing plant "I have a young lady friend in my ward who

whits a job in your department."
"What can she do?" asked the superintendent.
"Oh, I don't know." replied the alderman, is she a stenographer and typewriter, or can he write a good hand?" continued the superin-

he wants a job, and I want her to have a job; there's room in here for one more, and what I say goes. See!" "Well, all I have to say Mr. Alderman,

that I do not need any more help, and I shall moint her." "We'll see about that," said the olderman "I'll get an ordinance passed at the next meeting of the conneil creating a position for her in this department." And he did, but Mayor Hart sustained the action of the superintendent and

sed the ordinance. The expert accountant, in his report, said: "A despal printing plant such as tids on all the presses, type, roles, etc., especially designed to handle the regular work of the city,

odd sive money over a private plant. "Another and more evident merit of the munisignal plant is the direct benefit to the employes ened, holidays granted, and wages increased. This detation is an important one, and one to be results of such a policy should, of cor nade evident in the financial results of the

"The discontinuance of the plant would be public mistortune, but, in my opinion, it can be avoided only by a rigid adherence to business principles in its management, including the ap-pointment and removal of employes. There is no doubt in my mind that 15 to 20 per cent, of the expenses of the department would be saved if the pressure of political influence in favor of applicants for positions was wholly re-moved, and the superintendent left entirely free to run his department as a private business is carried on, appointing experienced and capable cherever they can be bought at the lowest

prices.
"With the plant run as a business solely for the benefit of the city as a whole, there is no doubt in my mind that all expenses can be paid, the cost to departments reduced, and a eimburse the city for the capital expenditure in the plant."

WASTE OF CAPITAL

O. S. Marsden, in Success for May. We are shocked when a young man dissipate in riotous living, a for une left him; yet, at the very same time, we may be throwing away cap ital more precious by denying ourselves the sleep which restores and freshens all of our powers, by wasting our time-capital, or by letting gold opportunities slip through our firgers unused

Uncle Sam Cannot Be Thrown Down

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

THE TALK of an international alliance against the United States with the purpose of re-pressing her export trade seems unlikely ertain products of likely to practically destroy the commerce tween that country and the United States,

ial friction, commercial hostility, and of these actional and international combination against American commerce: To answer in a word: iteady increase of American exports to the counfest in question and in many cases a decrease of American imports from those countries. Take he case of Germany, for instance, where restrictive legislation or regulation with referor o certain American products has been frequently ngitated and in some cases actually applied. The figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics show that our exports to Germany have in creased from 83 million dollars in 1805, to 1-7 million dollars in 1900, while the figures for the eight months ending with February, 1901, show exports to Germany valued at 134 million dol ars, against 124 million dollars in the corr onding months of last year, and III million dollars in the same months of the fiscal year 1809. Meantime imports into the United States from Germany have fallen from 111 million dollars in 1807 to 97 million dollars in 1900, though for the fiscal year 1901 they will probably be

occialy those of agricultural origin, have been the subject of more or less restrictive legislation r regulation; yet our exports to France, which n 1893 were 46 million dollars, were in 1900 80 uillion dollars, and in the eight months ending with February, 1901, are 56 million dollars against 43 million dollars in the corresponding months of 1800. Meantime our imports from France have not materially changed, the imports of 1900 73 millions dollars, while for the eight menths ending with February, 1991, they show an increase of a little less than one million dotlars over the corresponding months of last year, To Spain our export trade, instead of being destroyed or materially reduced, has increased, and the exports during the present fiscal year seem likely to be greater than in any other year, with possibly a single exception, in oc. history, having been for the eight months ending in the corresponding months of 1900, and so,oit Even in the fiscal year 1900 the total exports : Spain from the United States were larger than in any earlier year since 1861. Even in the case of Russia, whose recent action with reference to certain American products has been alread, announced, the effect is up to this time scarce) apparent. Our exports to Russia during March of the present year, the first full month follow ing the announcement of the discriminating rate against the United Statse, were \$1,199,683, a against \$1,246,621 during March of last year.

NUBS OF KNOWLEDGE.

cent of the adults

ent, could read and write. The output of British mines and quarries re from 11,000,000 tons in 1801 to 55,000,000 in 1850, and at present reaches 280,000,000 tons, of which 220,000,000 tons are coal.

In recent years Great Britain has lost her su premacy among the nations of the world in the manufacture of hardware. The United States now leads in the production of that commodity French, which used to be the world language

now ranks fifth, being spoken by only 45,000,000, while English is spoken by 115,000,000, Russian by 89,000,000, German by 70,000,000 and Spanish

Washington, April 26.

to cause serious anxiety if considered in the light of recent commercial history. Prequint authouncements have been made during the past few years of combinations or legislation against the United States with reference to our expert trade. A few years ago American meats were the subject of legislation in several of the Enopean countries with the apparent purpose of discriminating either against certain classes of our products or of aiding certain classes of producers in the countries in which the legislation was had. A little later came similar action with reference to American fruits. Still later further legislation with reference to various grades of neat was bad, and this was followed by increase of duties in certain European countries against the classes of breadstuffs of which the United States is a large producer and exporter. Our duity products have also been the subject of note or less attention from Europeans who had looked askance at oleomargarine butter and filled cheese. The sugar legislation and laws of the United States have furnished a basis for ertain restrictive regulations with reference to war with Spain was looked upon by many as

In Prance certain American moductions, es

dom of Great Britain, Scotland and Ireland are able to read and write. In 1891 only 22 pe

by 30,000,000.

It has been estimated that the forests of the Philippine Islands cover an area of about 40,000,000 acres. The island of Mindanao, with an area of some 20,000,000 acres, has immense tracts of almost unbroken forests.

There have been rapid strides in the fron and

steel industry in South Russla during the past five years. No fewer than fourteen from works have been started, while the quartette of pre-existing works have doubled the number of their blast furnaces.

The city of St. Petersburg has assumed con-trol of three of three pasts.

trol of three of the street car lines within its limits, and expects soon to take possession of the remaining lines. When all the roads shall have been secured the city will advertise for proposals to convert them to the electrical sys-Six ladies now rank in the professorate of

Swiss universities. Berne has four, one is the professor of history of philosophy, two are in the departments or surgery and of the Telluri observatory, while the fourth is cicle librarian, At Zurich there are two, both in the department of surgery.

While cutting up a poplar at his saw mill in

Lee county, Virginia, C. B. Kesterton found an auger hole plugged by a pin. On removing the pin he found in the hold five \$20 gold pieces bearing dates between 1830 and 1800. The coinare supposed to have been hid there for safe

keeping during the civil war.

The Army and Navy Journal states that 201 commissioned officers of the regular army speak Spanish fluently, and that most of these are serving in the Philippines, and the West ndies. About as many more officers possess a limited knowledge of Spanish. French is spoken by 231 officers, German by 136, the language of the American Indians by 13, Italian by 3, Swedish and Norwegian by 4 and Tagalog by 5. Chinese, Japanese, Eskimo, Dutch, Hungarian, Portu-guese and Polish are also spoken by some of our army officers.

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Shirt Waist

Information for Women

The season for selecting your Shirt Waists is at hand and we now place before you the finest line over shown in this city.

The Shirt Waist makers have created marvels of beauty and were splendidly encouraged by the designers of the lovely materials used, making it possible for them to produce a "Symphonic Harmony."

The perfect Shirt Waist. The delight of every lady.

Silk Waists

We are showing the popular Senior Waist, the most perfect fitting waist on the market, in Black and all the new colorings. Yoke and sleeves covered with fine thread and cluster tucks. Bishop sleeves with pointed cuffs, buttoned in front or back.

Lansdowne

Made up in the most perfect manner in regard to fit, style and con-

ized Duck, tucked, embroidered, strapped, tailor-made and plain, perfectly made, very dainty and at-

Merchant Tailor.

The Dickson Manufacturing Co.

Granton and Witkes-Barrs, PA. LGCOMOTIVES, STATIONARY ENGINES

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