The Daily Post.

THURSDAY MORNING,.....APRIL 4.

THE OIL REGION.

It has all along seemed strange to us that the capitalists and business men of Philadelphia, have paid so little attention to the business created by the recent oil discoveries in Western Pennsylvania. New York capitalists were early in the field, and have reaped a great benefit. The manufacturers of Pittsburgh, especially, and all branches of trade incidentally, have for the past six months, here, been greatly benefitted by the business created by the discovery of the oil. Philadelphia still appears to have a very imperfect idea of the extent of this trade, and of the great variety of articles which it requires. In steam engines alone, the oil region has already contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the manufacturing interests of our city. Pumps, copper pipe, tools for boring, and all the articles requisite for the sustenance, not only of oil men themselves, but of a large number of mechanics, who get constant and remunerative employment in the oil region, are constantly required.

Philadelphia, now and then, gets her eyes open, and sees some speciality which she proposes to furnish cheaper than we can, and what does the reader suppose, the City of Brotherly Love now proposes to send to Titusville? Why BRICKS.

Read the following from Tuesday's *North American*:

THE WANTS OF THE OIL REGION.

Such has been the sudden influx of population into the region of the oil discoveries in Pennsylvania, that settlements and flourishing towns are springing up with marvellous rapidity. At Titusville, where much of the business centres, there is a demand for brick makers, and the *Gazette*, of that place, estimates that from a million to one and a half millions of bricks will be wanted there during the summer. Parties are now bringing brick from Meadville at a cost of $28 per 1000. Here is a noble opening for the brickmakers of Philadelphia, who produce a far better article than can be obtained anywhere else in the Union. We have abundance of the very best of clay, and turn out bricks cheap enough to be able to supply the whole oil region. This can be done by way of the Pennsylvania Railroad to Pittsburgh, and by steamboats thence up the Allegheny river. The mechanics and manufacturers of Pittsburgh have been doing a large business in furnishing supplies for the oil region, but there are many articles which they cannot furnish as well as Philadelphia. Our bricks are preferred everywhere for their density and fine color, and would sell readily in Western Pennsylvania. We must again call the attention of our business men generally to the growing importance of this oil district. Millions of capital are being invested there, and the activity resembles that in some of the new gold regions of the Pacific. Yet the whole district was a wilderness, and they want nearly everything—railroads, common roads, machinery, good hotels, and in fact all the improvements of progressive civilization. Here are now markets for our merchandise and manufactures, openings for professional men and men of enterprise generally. Let us not neglect the opportunity.

Now we protest against these bricks. All Allegheny county, all along the banks of the Allegheny river, bricks are made in large quantities, as cheap and as good as Philadelphia bricks. We can send them up the Allegheny river without paying freight for them over the Pennsylvania Railroad. For Philadelphia to send bricks out here as an article of export to the oil region would be very much like "sending coal to New Castle." The editor of the *North American* appears to be mainly ignorant of the trade of the Allegheny river, and the resources of the region along its banks. One thing it certainly produces in quantities, of quality, and at prices to suit the purchaser," and that thing is bricks. We hope the staid editor of the *North American* had not an accidental "brick in his hat" when he wrote the above article. Evidently he is not posted on the brick question. The "density and fine color" of Philadelphia bricks may be all very well in its place, but to the oil men, it would make little difference whether the bricks which they use in putting up their engines are "red, white or blue."

What the *North American* says about the "growing importance of this oil district," is, however, all very true. The oil business is developing, with surprising, rapidity the resources of a vast region of country, and we re-echo the appeal to Philadelphians, "not to neglect the opportunity." Let them "pitch in like bricks" and share the benefits of the increased trade which has already grown up, and not let New York and her enterprising capitalists take the whole of that portion of it which is susceptible of being diverted from our own city of Pittsburgh.

SPANISH INTRIGUES IN SAINT DOMINGO.

It appears by recent advices from Hayti, that it is true that an attempt has been made on the part of Spain to seize the Island of St. Domingo. This high handed and outrageous conduct of the Spanish government may lead to serious complication between this country and Spain. It is announced from Washington that the Administration are in full possession of all the particulars of the recent action of Spain, and it is very evident that the new Secretary of State intends to take the necessary steps in this matter, and will immediately call the attention of the Spanish Government to it. Here is another embarrassing difficulty which must be met and disposed of.

The proceedings under the auspices of the Spanish government upon the Island of St. Domingo have produced a deep sensation in administration circles. It is expected that the Secretary of State will immediately address an energetic protest to the Spanish government. This is all the federal power will be able to do in its present crippled condition.

Strange to say, the prospect of trouble with a European power is hailed with anything but regret by many public men. They assert that a war with a foreign power would be a perfect godsend in the present danger of civil strife, as it would at once revive the national sentiment in the South, allay the secession fever, and in the end result in a reconsolidation of the country.

WHISKY INSPECTOR.

The Republican Legislature desirous of having an office or two more in Pittsburgh have passed or are about to pass an act creating an office of Whisky Inspector at Pittsburgh. The Republican councils of Pittsburgh have passed a preamble and resolutions protesting against said act, and requesting the Governor, if it has passed or shall hereafter pass, to veto it. What's up? A veto on a Republican office, Oh! what will Andrew say to this?

THE three envoys of the Confederate States are now on their way to Europe. The United States Ambassadors will be despatched abroad with as little delay as possible.

THE President is worn out and ill from the excitement of receiving visitors. The world should have the charity to grant him a respite from importunities.

COUNTY REFORM.

In view of the persistent efforts, made by certain unscrupulous parties—interested in the perpetuation of the present wretched management of our County finances, to convince the public that our Pittsburgh plan of collecting taxes had failed of its purpose, we some time since prepared a table embracing the assessments, collections, date of payment, exonerations and cost of collecting, on city taxes for the last three years under the old, and the first three under the new system.

This table taken carefully from the public records, demonstrates that in all the three elements of *prompt, cheap* and *thorough* collections, the new system immeasurably excels the old. We now collect our taxes much cheaper, much earlier, and our lost taxes are much less than formerly.

This table we may yet publish, and will show the operation of our financial system for a series of years. But as objection might be made to it, that in some years, collections are more easily made than in others,—a fact which we believe, however, would make to the credit of the new system, we have made a comparison of the new system for the year 1860, in the nine wards of the city. The County, State and Military tax, are collected by collectors. The City and Water taxes are paid voluntarily by the citizens at the Treasurer's office. Here are the the figures:

County, State and Military taxes assessed in the nine Wards	$133,374 49
Paid to Treasurer before Nov. 1, by the commissioner's collector	28,064 12
Uncollected (nearly four-fifths of the whole	$105,310 37
City and Water taxes assessed in the nine Wards	$121,905 07
Paid to City Treasurer before Nov 1, by the tax payers directly	90,454 48
Uncollected but a fraction over one-fourth of the whole	$31 10 59

Here we have the figures showing incontestibly, the advantage of the new system; and while we are willing to excuse the assertions to the contrary, so industriously made by Mr. David L. Smith the Commissioners' chief clerk, and legislative borer, who has frequently of late demonstrated either that figures or himself would lie. We cannot so readily pardon the tax collectors, Commissioners and other officials, who are industriously engaged in retailing among the people David's wholesale falsification of facts and figures.

Even the above comparison, creditable as it is, to the city system, is to it, an unfair one, for the water taxes are in large amounts, payable by the poor, whose county taxes are but a trifle, and who are not able to pay promptly as the more wealthy owners of real estate.

A comparison between the city tax proper, and the county tax, would be more fair, as they are assessed on precisely the same property thus:

County tax assessed in the nine Wards	105,841 90
Paid by commissioner's collectors before Nov. 1	23,947 22
Unpaid (four-fifths of the whole	82,894 17
City tax assessed on the same persons and property	97,759 84
Paid by citizens directly to city treasurer	75,865 63
Unpaid—being less than one-fifth	21,882 21

For the Post

THE WESTERN PENITENTIARY—THE JOURNAL.

MR. BARK—SIR—The *Commercial Journal* of this morning, in its comments on the management of the Western Penitentiary, has fallen into an egregious error in its statement of the amount paid by this county for maintaining the prisoners therein. How he could have, as a fair journalist, perpetrated such an error, I cannot conceive, as to my certain knowledge, he has been furnished each year with a report of the prison, giving a full and detailed history of its finances. It says "from 1828 till 1851, the Western Penitentiary was admirably managed, and had become self sustaining During the last ten years the management has sadly degenerated in economy and efficiency. In 1859 this county paid $6,326.63, and report says, a still larger sum in '60."

I take the liberty of contradicting *in toto* the statements assumed by the *Journal* man, and I herewith annex the amount collected from the counties composing the Western district, from 1854 till the close of 1860, which will exhibit to the tax payers of the county a very different version of the facts as stated by the *Journal*.

In 1854	the balance against the prison was			$3,168 68
" 1855	do	do	do	6,068 47
" 1856	do	do	do	3,850 73
" 1857	do	do	do	6,949 12
" 1858	do	do	do	7,695 02
" 1859	do	do	do	5,224 34
" 1860	do	do	do	2,419 76

The above amounts are yearly divided between the twenty-six counties comprising the Western District, each county paying in proportion to the number of prisoners confined within the walls.

On Saturday, the 4th of December, 1858, the undersigned was sworn into office, and on Monday, the 6th of the same month, took charge of the institution; consequently had nothing to do with the expenses of 1858 or the preceding years, and I, as the Warden of the Prison, have only to account to the tax-payers of the counties for 1859 and 1860.

I now give you the amount the county of Allegheny paid in those two years, and refer those interested to my receipts in the County Commissioners' office for 1859 and 1860. For 1859, I received warrants from the County Commissioners for $4,760 82, some of which were disposed of at a heavy discount; and for 1860, I received warrants for $1,859 15, which amount was paid very promptly by the present Treasurer, on presentation.

The *Journal* charges, for the last ten years, degenerate management in economy and efficiency, and at the close of his article disavows any intention to reflect on the motives of the Inspector or Superintendent, which is truly yours—very.

The present Board of Inspectors, as well as those who preceded them, are all well known in the community as business men of the first order, and able to take care of themselves. They require nothing at my hands.

JOHN BIRMINGHAM, Warden.

For The Pittsburgh Post

THE CROPS—OIL.

NEW LISBON, Ohio, April 2, 1861.

Mr. Editor—Dear Sir:—In the last number of the weekly, you requested some information concerning the crops of grain and fruit. Our grain prospects at this time are by no means flattering, on account of the hard freezing in March, which has frozen out and destroyed a great deal of the wheat on the low lands. From the present indication there won't be more than a half crop. The peaches and cherries are all killed, and a large portion of the apples. The warm weather in February and the fore part of March caused the buds to put out and the hard freezing since that has killed the buds.

Oil prospects in our section, in some places, are very good. There are several companies formed on two branches of Beaver creek. A company has been formed at Fredericktown, and one at Williamsport. The Williamsport company are preparing to put down a well. They have strong surface indication.

Oil in considerable quantities has shown itself on top of the ground. Several other companies have been formed at West Point and Elkton, and all are sanguine of success.

Respectfully yours, B.

A New Orleans paper published for local officers, an "Independent Ticket," a "Citizen's Ticket," a "Louisiana Ticket," a ticket of the "Jefferson Davis Association," a ticket simply headed "For District Judges," and numerous individual nominations. The voters, will, therefore, have abundant material from which to choose.

HARRISBURG LETTER.

HARRISBURG, April 2, 1861.

Letters from some of the most substantial men of the county have been received in favor of the passage of the bill introduced by Mr. Burns, containing but three sections, which will fully carry out the expressed desire of the people. Mr. Burns, I regret to say, has turned tail to the farmers and others whom he was in duty bound to sustain. He has gone round with Williams, to make the county treasury support a city official elected by the citizens to do city work, having nothing to do with the taxables of the county; nor should those living outside of the cities be made to pay tribute to support and sustain men elected by city taxables only. We have come to a pretty pass when members of the Legislature, owning real estate in the cities, can compel the country people to assist them in the payment of their city officers.

Mr. Williams is playing sharp on the taxables, he desires to keep himself clear of the payment of city taxes, and heap the burden on those having nothing to do with the matter. To better blind the farmers and others, he appropriates two sections of a correct reform bill, somewhat mutilated, and to this he attaches his objectionable matter to make his bill of abominations palatable This trickery of the county reform will not suit the tastes of the unsuspecting farmers and mechanics, who live remote from city influence and are not up to the tricks of men who are bent on plundering them, to better serve their own selfish ends and penurious disposition.

Mr. Williams has succeeded most admirably in getting the county officers in jail, but he has no remedy to get them out. Will he take their place and let them come here next year, and we will see then if they would not better serve the interests of the whole people, in place of playing into the hands of the few. Will Mr. Williams change places with the Commissioners? He can then be a better judge of freedom. The Supreme Court of the United States having given an opinion in regard to the Allegheny city bonds, and affirmed the Supreme Court's decision of this State, what next can be done to stave off the payment? Is not Mr. Williams, with his removal address, out at sea, with his chart overboard? We will live to see the end, which will be ere long. Mr. Hamilton, by next month, will be "shoved in," yet the immaculate, who has been pumping thunder all winter has done nothing yet to give relief to the troubled spirits now suffering.

Senate bill 141, "can act relating to Allegheny county," objected of by Mr McDonough of the city.

I observe Mr. Marshall, chairman of the Republican Executive Committee, is here.

The private calendar is large, but the Speaker and clerks rush bills through at locomotive speed.

Speaker Davis has obtained (in place of a consulate,) the appointment of Superintendent of Indian affairs. The position will be well filled by a most competent and deserving gentleman. It could not have been bestowed on a more worthy and influential person than Speaker Davis. He is not only a good party man—but generally liked for his urbanity of manners, polite attention and generous hospitality to all. He is fully competent to fulfill all the duties devolving on him

The erection of an executive mansion is talked of. Where is the money to come from? The building occupied by His Excellency is comfortable enough, and much better than any of them ever occupied before they got the position of High Constable to the State School House. The Legislature The party in power have extravagant notions, and care not what they do to make themselves comfortable at the expense of the State. Nothing will satisfy the present head and front of the "Secession" but a White House of equal dimensions to Old Abe's, where he squatted to the utter destruction of the Union. The people in oil will issue the writ of caster, and the writ should be made returnable by the next October election, so that the State might clear off the present cravens.

An active and vigilant member from your city has informed me that the Senate reform bill, petitioned against by your people, should pass, would prevent a compromise hereafter with the bondholders—I think it is the 9th and 6th sections The bill got through the Senate without the observation of the city senators, but the members were rather sharper and put a veto on it for the present Williams demanded the reason, but could not be gratified at this stage of the proceedings. Mr. McDonough is not only watchful, but ever on the alert to serve his constituents He is a sound, reliable Democrat, who never goes back.

The Pittsburgh & Steubenville turnpike road bill, passed first reading.

Supplement to the act incorporating the Lawrenceville & Sharpsburg plank road company—first reading.

An act for the removal of the toll gate of the Lawrenceville & Sharpsburg plank road company from the borough of Lawrenceville—first reading.

An act relative to the State Lunatic Hospital.

Supplement to the act to incorporate the Western Transportation Company, approved March 15th, A. D., 1850.

Supplement to the act authorizing the Commissioners of Beaver County to borrow money.

Mr. Gearing, in place, an act relating to Pennsylvania Avenue in Pittsburgh.

I have just learned that a Mexican soldier has been appointed to the Marine Hospital. The name of the recipient has escaped me (Mr. Sample, of Allegheny city, we presume.)

I must not omit to state that we have but fifteen able bodied Republicans employed (not employed) and paid for pasting documents, when formerly, while Democrats had power, four boys could do the work. We have five assistant door keepers, all to keep two half doors, five assistant sergeant-at-arms, with lesser lights who keep their seats and never move but when an adjournment takes place.

The lesser evil of the State delivered a message from the Governor. No bills signed to interest the West. IRONSIDES.

Death of the Duchess of Kent.

The Africa brings us intelligence of the death, on the 16th of March, of the Duchess of Kent, the mother of the Queen of England. For a long time the late Duchess had been afflicted with a cancer, which was the immediate cause of her death. Since the accession of her daughter to the proudest throne of Europe she had remained a resident either at Windsor Castle with the Queen, or at Frogmore, a mansion of her own, a mile or two distant from the castle, whither the Queen went almost daily to visit her.

The late Duchess had attained a venerable age. She was a princess of the house of Saxe-Saalfeld-Coburg, was born on the 17th of August, 1786, and was baptized under the names of Marie Louise Victoria. She was, at an early age, married to Prince Henry, of Leiningen, who, dying, left her a blooming young widow in 1814. A year or so later she attracted the attention of Edward, Duke of Kent, the fourth son of George III, and was married to him in London on the 11th of July, 1818.

But the married life of the new Duchess was but short; for in less than two years the Duke of Kent died, and she was again a widow with one child—the Princess (now Queen) Victoria. At that time the accession of this little child to the British throne seemed but a remote contingency. George III, out lived his son, the Prince of Wales, while George IV. and William IV., his other sons, who reigned after him, both died without issue; thus the issue of the next brother, the deceased Duke of Kent, became heir to the British throne. As soon as this contingency gradually resolved itself into a probability and then a certainty, the Duchess of Kent devoted her time to fitting her daughter for the high station she was called upon to occupy. A firm and consistent Protestant, she taught the young Princess a veneration of that religion as expressed in the Church of England. Mental and personal accomplishments were carefully attended to, as well as physical requirements. The daughter throve under such judicious treatment, and the mother had the satisfaction of attending the coronation and the marriage of her child, of seeing her the mother of a large family, and of knowing that her throne was built upon the hearts of loving subjects.

The life of the Duchess of Kent, quiet and unostentatious was so identified with that of the present Queen, that there is little to say of her otherwise. Her death will place in mourning most of the reigning families of Europe, while at the English court there can be little doubt but that the official trappings of woe will this time represent—what they seldom do in court circles—the honest and unaffected grief of the wearers. It may be added that this is the first serious bereavement Queen Victoria has ever experienced. Her father died before she was old enough to know him, and she has never lost a child. An only child herself, she had never a brother or sister to lose or mourn for, and thus the present bereavement must be peculiarly afflicting to her.

"Blynnks" in Washington.

"Blynnks," who is an applicant for the Nashville Post Office, in a letter written from Washington to the Nashville *Patriot*, thus shows up the economy of the Federal Government:

The way the government gets its work done is curious. As an illustration, you and your family meet in convention of the whole, and adopt a resolution authorizing the construction of a hen-coop in your back yard. You at once appoint me superintendent of the work, putting a thousand or two dollars in bank for me to check on. I go you to appoint my brother-in-law chief engineer.

I appoint two of my brothers assistant superintendents, and my brother-in law appoints two of his brothers assistant engineers—all at your expense. We buy us each a fast horse and buggy, and ride around town, drink cocktails and play billiards, until the bank deposit gives out, when we make out a printed report of seventy-three pages, furnishing you a complete topographical survey of your back yard, and a vast amount of statistical information with regard to the number of hens you are likely to have for the next forty years

We wind up the report with the announcement that the site of the hen coop has been selected, and a call for another appropriation to prosecute the work, which we assure you will be done with "vigor" You place another thousand or two in bank, and we employ two hundred hands at three dollars a day to transport seventy-five cents worth of lumber, which costs you under our management about ten times that many dollars, to the place of operations, which requires about three months.

In the meantime we drive around and go on vigorously with the liquor and the billiards We then come up with another report, and a demand for another appropriation. With this we get the walls of the structure up, and with one or two more appropriations, and a great many more cocktails and billiards, we get the thing covered in, and at the end of twelve months, which we very appropriately style our "official year," we put you in formal possession of a ten thousand dollar hen coop that any negro carpenter would have been glad to knock up some Saturday afternoon for a suit of your old clothes.

He thus modestly excuses himself for epistolary brevity:

I meant to write you a long letter to-night but unhappily I find myself placed in a singularly unfavorable position for writing with my accustomed force and perspicuity. My room is situated in a wing of the building. Just opposite is another wing, with a narrow courtyard between. There must be a concert or a circus, or some sort of a show in town to-night, for at a window immediately opposite to mine a couple of very pretty whist I would suppose to be chambermaids, have been putting on their clothes for the last hour, as if they were fixing up to go somewhere.

This is very annoying to a man of family, and if it were not so far down stairs, I would go and complain to the landlord. It would require an individual of tremendous power of concentrating his thoughts to write an able letter under such circumstances.

I would close the blinds and get further from the window, but I expect to pay for staying in this house, and I am not to be driven from pillar to post by such a spectacle as is now before me.

The Kansas Relief Societies—Too Much of a Good Thing.

The White (Cloud (Kansas) *Chief*, a respectable Republican paper, says:

Seed wheat and potatoes are needed in Kansas, and should be distributed liberally. Food works all fair wages, the greater part of the winter, but refused it. They are living off the aid furnished from the East. We know men who lie about the doggeries every day, drinking whisky, and selling whisky to the Indians, not pretending to work for a living—every evening, when they go home, they carry a load of aid with them. Some men who had a slight disposition to work, now refuse to do a thing as long as they can get aid. One place not many miles from here was formerly filled up with lazy, drunken loafers, who could manage to pick up a living while times were good, but who were compelled to scatter off into Missouri when the drouth came But aid supplies are pouring into that place, and these loafers are crowding back thicker than ever, and are being supplied with a liberal hand Formerly, they were the very men who endeavored to run out or murder the persons who have been instrumental in procuring the aid. Another locality in this county, we hear, is crowding full of Missourians, who are coming over to live on Kansas aid

Another matter of complaint is, that glorious gentry in towns, who do not cultivate an acre of ground, are allowed a full share of seed wheat, while farmers who saved a bushel, or two of seed, by living on corn bread, are refused any, because, forsooth, they have some, and are therefore compelled to put up with a crop of from half an acre to an acre.

We repeat, this thing is getting to be a downright nuisance, and we hear it from all quarters. Many a poor young man who earns a subsistence by working by the day in the factories of New York and New England has contributed almost a month's wages for the relief of Kansas

As far as provisions are concerned, we believe there has been sufficient contributed. If properly distributed, and not used to feed loafers, it will supply all who need it. There are still large quantities on the way; and those who are still dismally pleading to the East for more, are trembling lest the fountain give out before their purses are sufficiently lined A few days frequently reveal important things. The past week has been a perfect eye opening season.

The Alleged European Naval Expeditions to America.

Advices received at the English and French legations by the last European mails contain nothing in regard to the alleged impending appearance of fleets of observation upon the Atlantic coast. The report is altogether discredited by those likely to be best informed on the subject. Like measures for the protection of the English and French commercial interests are not expected to be taken until after the intention of the federal government to blockade the Southern ports and collect the revenue from shipboard shall have become manifest.

What It Costs.

We find in the Mobile *Register* a statement that will give some idea of the expense of military preparations, and go to show how fortunate it is for both divisions that a war between the United and the Confederate States has (so far, and we trust in the future) been avoided. It reports that among the military appropriations of the Confederate Congress, not already announced, is one of a little over $1,300,000 for the support, for six months, of three thousand men at Charleston; and an additional appropriation of $800,000 for the support of two thousand men now at the same place, should the President think that increase of force necessary."

Hon. Edgar Cowan.

Senator Cowan, accompanied by Hon. John Covode, returned home on Saturday, and is expected in Washington on Wednesday, to take a hand in the melee which will result when the grand almoner, President Lincoln, begins to distribute the Federal plums belonging to the faithful in Pennsylvania.

JOHN WENTWORTH, of Chicago, had another rencontre in the streets of that city on Thursday last. It has been the sixteenth or seventeenth encounter he has had since he was a resident of that city.

THE *Pennsylvanian* newspaper is dead.—The *Argus* is, we believe, now the only Democratic party paper published in Philadelphia.

HON. SHERRARD CLEMENS publishes a card in the Wheeling *Intelligencer* announcing his determination to retire from public life.

THE Peach crop in many quarters of New Jersey is said to have been destroyed.

ELIZA BISCACCIANTI, the once favorite and beautiful cantatrice, recently attempted to commit suicide in San Francisco.

PERSON BROWNLOW announces himself a candidate for Governor of Tennessee. He says he endorses the insugural of Lincoln: We suppose, then, he is the Black Republican candidate.

THE Republicans have carried Connecticut by an increased majority.

THE Chicago *Post* comes to us on an enlarged sheet—a good evidence of prosperity

THE tax on ice in the new tariff of the Southern Confederacy, is five dollars per ton:

JOHN DREW is performing with great success at the Lyceum Theatre, London.

No State tax is to be levied in Illinois for the next two years.

ALLISON, the Historian, is writing the lives of Lord Castleton and Sir Charles Stewart.

BŒRHAVES

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THE NEW PITTSBURGH WEEKLY.

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