PITH AND POINT.

-A ra'ny day pienie and a broken marriage engagement are in one respect alike-postponed on account of the wedder.-Burdette.

-Can anybody tell why everybody at a lecture manages to cough just as the lecturer is pronouncing the one word which of all others you want to

-The Journal of Chemistry gives this piece of consolation: "If you live in a town don't cry over spilt milk. Examine it closely, and you may find it is not milk after all."

-"Aunty," said a thoughtful boy to his aged nurse, "what comes of all the old moon?" "Deed, I'm not very sure, child," she answered. Maybe they be chipped up to make stars out of the bits. - Golden Days.

-The wife of Dr. Tanner used to earn \$3,000 a year as a physician before her marriage. Now she has lost all that income. It is never advisable for a self-supporting woman to marry a "fast" man -Labell Citizen.

-The incessant talker may be of use in the world, but there is a strong suspleion abroad that his principal service to mankind is to illustrate the fact that it doesn't require much brains to make a noise in the world.—Oil City Derrick.

-A proof-reader, out for a walk, was met by a Typographical Error; but the proof-reader did not speak. nor did he even bow in recognition.
"Ha, ha," chuckled the Typographical
Error, "I knew he wouldn't see me!" -Louisville Courier-Journal.

-A family in Lewiston, Maine, re cently received a visit from a prominent elergyman. In the family is a girl of three years—the pet and privileged character of the household. At the table she listened attentively while grate was being said, and when the elergyman had reached his "Amen, she exclaimed: "'Tain't pretty to talk so at the table; my papa don't."—Troy

-A London chemist, in an analysis of the ten we drink, found that it contained "nut-galls, iron filings, filbert husks, sulphate of copper, hornets' nests, acetic acid, green paint, tar rope, desiceated door-mats, ammonia, stable sweepings, etc." This would seem to disprove the general belief that tea is adulterated, unless something of the kind may lark in that suspicious, "etc."—Norristown Herald.

-A New York dude went to a celebrated doctor to be examined, as his health was on the wane. The physician examined the young man carefully and said: "I find your heart is affected." "Anything else, doctor?" "Yes, your lungs are slightly affected." "Anything else about me that is affected? "Yes, your manners are also affected."
-N. Y. Sun.

SNAKE AND BIRD.

A Remakable Contest Between a Partridge and a Black Snake.

Whether or not it is scientifically true that snakes ever charm birds, it is true that birds sometimes attack and klill want to have you taken in by anybody, and scarcely during to breath, she heard Everything in nature has its morning snakes. An account is given in the Indianapolis People of an exciting contest of this kind, in which a partridge was else, and I ve no doubt you'll find many the victor. It happened in Preston, who will be as honest with you as I in Wayne County, Ba. A traveling saless tend to be, and have your ore assayed. man, while trout-fishing in a creek Take some of this dust with you and see near that place, heard a commotion in if it be like your ore. the bushes near the creek, and cries when they are lost. He peered through the bushes, and saw a hear partridge ore is all like that, I said, 'I'll find and a large black snake engaged in a men who will give you \$50,000,000 for

The partridge attacked ico. the snake with her beak and feet, and moved with such rapidity about the day the Western man came in to see snake, that, in spite of the quickness me. I gave it to him hot. 'Look here, tacks, the snake was folled in all its atseemed to be seeking to blind the serpent by striking at its eyes,

In its efforts to get the bird within its coil the snake seeme! to glide over and under her like a flash, but, no matter what course it took, the partr dge never failed to slip away from it and did deliver a telling blow upon it.

forward to meet the serpent, and delivered a blow with its beak which struck the snake square in one of its eyes, his was apparent to the witness, who head to the ground and rolling it from side to side as if in great pain.

The bird did not love a second in folon the snake close to its head, and, with strokes delivered with surprising rapidity, inflicted wounds with her beak which seemed to daze the snake and it glided first in one direction and then in another, making no further effort to defend itself, and yet apparently unable to find a way to escape.

The partridge kept up its effective striking on the neek of the snake until

body and the reptile ceased to move. The man advanced at this point in the battle, but the bird continued to tear at the flesh of the suake until he was near enough to touch her, when she became aware of his presence for the first time. She retreated burriedly to the spot where her terror-stricken brood were huddled, and calling them after her with a few clucks, led them away into the underbrush.

On examing the snake, it was found that besides the fatal wounds it had received in its neck, both of its eyes had been put out by the partridge. The snake was nearly five feet in length, and had in its stomach the partially

MINING SHARPS.

Western Story Tellers That Assayers Have to Deal with-Two Big Liars.

"Some big liars come to an assayer" office once in a while," a down-town assayer said incidentally in a talk about mining property, "but I think the two higgest liars I have ever seen came into my office last summer, not together, thank goodness, for if they had I would have kicked them out for supposing that I might be an eternal fool. Instead, I listened to each, and then gave him a piece of my mind. The first waabout forty-live years of age, sharpfeatured, long-haired, and with the appearance of a Western miner. He carelessly unwrapped a newspaper from a lump of silver ore, and asked in a business-like way to have it assayed. I picked up the lump and said off-hand: There's no need of having that assayed. It's seventy-five per cent, silver at first glance.' And it was, It was about as rich a specimen as I had seen in some time. It was worth at least \$18,000 a ton.

"But I want it assayed,' he sald. T've got a drift of ore like that six feet wide, and I want to sell it. I don't want to lie about it, and I want to know just what it is worth.

'That's my buviness, and, of course charged him more than I would anybody else, because I knew he intended to swindle somebody. I ground the piece of ore into dust, and put in a bot Then I took a little and assayed the useay, and waited for the man to

"About four days after the assay four or five respectable old gentlemen came into the office together, and one of them unwrapped a piece of ore and aud: Will you please assay this for us? are thinking of buying a silver mine, and this is some of the ore. What do you think it is worth?' "I looked at it closely and discovered

that it was from the lump my Western man had brought in. "Excuse me, but I have assayed this

ore within five days, I said.
"Y-e-e-s, the spokesman of the party said, hesitatingly. We understand that it has been assayed, but we thought it would be safer to have it

assayed for us particularly. How much

did you make it out to be worth?" "Twelve or tifteen thousand dollars a ton.' I said, not wishing to be too particular at first. T'll see

"While I was looking over my record book I noticed the gentlemen looking knowingly at one another.

" It was \$18,000, I remarked, turning toward them. It didn't startle them

"'That's pretty rich, isn't it?"
"'Decidedly so. Where's the mine? I asked.

"'In Colorado. We have a drift there six feet wide." 'Colorado!' I exclaimed. 'That ore

never has seen Colorado. That's from some Mexican mine. "I knew what I was talking about

when I sald that, because I can pick out Colorado ore from two thousand specimens. I can pick out ore from the Comstock lode anywhere you put it. After getting a few more particulars was sick. about the man who wanted to sell the mine, I said: 'Gentlemen, I don't in the road near the barn. Listening and especially by one of those Western mining sharps. Instead of taking my word for this assny, go to somebody

" But we can buy this mine for only

Huddled together a short distance away was the partridge's brood, peeping in terror. The partridge at the pa

"They looked rather glum and went struck also below with her wings. She out. I really pitied them. The next with which the reptile is enabled to I said, 'we have just about enough of throw its folds about anything it at- such fellows as you around here. When you come on here to sell a mine, don't tempts to encircle the bird, which try to palm off Mexican ore for Colorado ore. Take my advice, and don't show that lump to any miner, because he'll know it in a minute. Now sk p. "I have never seen the old gen tlemen since. I guess they found

somebody who told them the truth as I

The other chap was a short, dumpy Once the snake retreated several feet fellow. He wanted to have everything as if flying from the bird, and the latter very secret. He had a piece of ore that followed it closely. Suddenly the snake turned and rushed back at the partridge with its head raised more him. At length he said: I'm a comthan a foot in the air. The bird dashed mercial traveler, and while I was in Mexico this summer I struck an oil! trail over the mountains that, I thought, would take me by a short cut to where fainted and was lying on the door. I wanted to go. I took it, but it was the roughest ground I ever struck. the snake's instantly dropping its About noon I was almost overcome, and I dropped off my mule near a shady place to eatch a nap and rest. My mule. that was wandering about, awoke me lowing up her advantage, but pounced after awhile by nearly stepping on me. In pulling my blanket off that served as a pillow, I not ced that the rock sparkled. It struck me all at once that it was silver, and I looked around to see if there were any other rocks like that. I don't know whether you'll believe it, but a short distance oil the trail the ground was covered with them. picked up about twenty pounds and eacked them on my mule and started the head was almost separated from the for the nearest settlement. I didn't say anything to anybody in that neighborhood, and I didnt dure to have the ore assayed until I got to El Paso. But I inquired about the price of land, and found I could buy that piece of ground for about \$15,000. I've come on here to raise that and then start a mine.

What do you think the ore is worth? "I took the fellow all in and said: 'Did you pick this off the ground?'

" 'Certainly,' he replied.

"Was it in this condition?"

he was beginning to be frightened.

"Then you are the baggest liar I have ever seen," I said, very decidedly.

" 'Of course,' he answered, although

thing about Mexican land. This ore twenty feet under ground, and it isn't necessary to buy Mexican land before Drink Up All the Sea. came from some mine more than starting a mine. You tell your story well, but you'll have hard work to find rooled down by radiation to a solid unanybody who will give you \$15,000 to der crust like the earth. The sun, owing

pay for Mexican land. Get out.'
There's a great difference, you know, in the appearance of ore that has lain on the surface any length of time and that of ore just dug from under ground. The latter is more crys- eightieth of the earth's mass, is suptalized, for one particular. The sur- posed to have had time to cool down to face pickings are what we call the re- a solid globe all the way from its sursults of a blow-out. Two drifts, com- face to its center. Its internal heat is ing together peak-shaped, are gradu- supposed to have been all radiated ally projected out by the washing away of the earth. Water gets in the crev- Now the hot interior mass of the earth ices, and, after awhile, the peak breaks into pieces, which are scattered over little or none of the free gases that conthe surface. If that chap had had surface ore he might have been believed, bo led oil, expanded and driven to the except that part about the land, which was way off."-N. Y. Sun.

TWO BRAVE WOMEN.

A Tarilling Ephanic of Life in the Recty

The heroines of history are usually characters made conspicuous by the emergencies of war, or revolution, or an unsettled state of society. The same heroic qualities exist in woman's I knocked off a piece of the lump. I nature at all times, only in a peaceful age, and a peaceful land, the situations that call them out occur less frequently and are less likely to go upon record. The Rocky Mountain News tells in the it. It turned out just what I thought following story what a girl can do bred it would. As usual I made record of up in frontler life, and probably, for that reason, better fitted to cope with its dangers; out cases of female bravery are by no means uncommon in our towns and cites. Those who complain that the briggin were to decementing will do well to notice that in this instance it was the girl who proved equal to the occasion, while the woman was

utterly helpless. Reed's ranch did not differ materally from hundreds of others in Colorado. The same straggling, one-story structure, perfectly innocent of paint, with outbuildings looking as if they were ready to tumble down. The family consisted, at the time of this story, of Joe Reed, the proprietor, his wife and two children. Ella, the cidest, was a rather pretty girl of eighteen, who for several years had relieved the tired mother of much of the burden of the housework, attended to the duties of the dairy, and was a good horsewoman withal, often accompanying her father from surface to the center. When that in rough rides of miles when looking for stray cattle.

Once a week Mr. Reed went to Denver to sell the dairy products, and purchase such articles of food as could not be raised on the ranch. Willie frequently accompanied him, and the two women thought nothing of being left alone in the house until long into the night, as the distance to the city made the drive a long one.

It was on one of these evenings in the early fall, just as they had completed their supper and the mother was ar-ranging the table for the lungry father and son, that the younger woman went mediately on the road, to see a calf that

Suddenly she heard the voices of men

words that almost froze her with terror "The old man keeps his money-box in the drawer of the old bureau, but the old woman carries the key."
"How can we get at it?" asked an-

"We can blud both women, and it

they make any noise, we can stop that," For a moment the terrified listener

was fairly paralyzed with fear; then, she started up, and running quickly around to the back of the house and erawling through an open window. went to a closet and took from it two revolvers which were always kept load ed for emergencies, concealing them in the folds of her dress.

Hastily rejoining her mother in the larger room, she was just in time to see two burly-looking ruffians enter by the

The taller of the two men demanded supper, "and let it come quick, too," he said, in a menseling tone. The brave girl placed the food on the table, knowing that the scoundrels would satisfy their hunger before putting their purpose of robbery, and possibly murder, into execution. She then sat down in front of them, and watered them. The moment their meal was completed, she suddenly thrust the muzzles of the pistols in their faces, threatening to shoot if they moved.

Expostulations and protestations were in vain; the beroic girl stood there with eyes flashing and determined, for what to her seemed ages. The poor mother, as soon as she comprehended the situation, overcome by her great terror, had

At last the sound of wagon wheels was heard coming toward the house, and in a moment the father and brother entered the house in company with an uncle who had arrived in Denver that day from their old Eastern home in Pennsylvania, and by the merest accident met Mr. Reed on Sixteenth Street, in Denver.

As soon as they comprehended the situation they compelled the ruilians with revolvers at their heads to submit to being bound with ropes, and when day-light came they were taken to the county seat and placed in jail. The brave girl as soon as relieved from her terrible guard duty, and the

horrible strain on her nerves was taken off, went into a succession of hysterical spasms, and it was for weeks that her reason, if not her life, was despaired of. She eventually recovered, however, and afterward married a wealthy Denver gentleman, and is now living in the Queen City. The two men were recognized as old offenders, in fact they were

time in the penitentiary in Canon City. -Elmira, N. Y., has fined a milkman \$25 for putting one quart of water North. -London Standard. and three of milk together and shaking and had in its stomach the partially digested remains of a large rattle-sanke. "The fellow winced, and I continued: 'You don't know anything quill. A milkman can go too far.—sanke.

A DRY TIME.

Most of the planets have probably to his greater mass, is still a fiery globe away into the surrounding cold space. can, of course, contain no water, and surface where are found now the great bulk of our oceans and our atmosphere. But when the earth shall have parted with all is internal heat, having thrown it into the surrounding cold space as the moon has done, then the gold. solid but porous mass within its present erest, which is now incapable of aborbing water or air, on account of the present high temperature, will begin to drink up the water and air just as the parched soil after a summer's drough trinks up the rain, and the ground is dry in a few minutes after the shower. But you may well ask, could the solid porous mass within the present crust of be earth thus drink up the whole of the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and cause all the waters of our globe to disappear? Let us examine his more closely. While the interior of the earth re-

mains as hot as it is at present it is no more possible for the water and air of our globe to penetrate to these fiery regions than it is for a drop of water to remain on a hot stone. But the earth is losing its heat day by day and year by year, radiating it out into the surrounding cold space. I know it has been computed that the earth receives from the sun annually just as much heat as it loses in a year by radiation nto the surrounding space. Grant that it be so for the present and for many thousands of years to come. But the trouble is that the sun himself is cooling off, and, therefore, will not be always able to send us as much heat as he does at present. The time will, therefore, surely come when we shall lose more heat by radiation into space than the sun will be able to return to

us. Then it will be only a question of time for the earth gradually to cool down, as the moon has already done, time comes will not the dry but solid and porous core of our globe drink up the oceans and atmosphere, causing them to disappear, not into large cavernous pockets, but into the minute pores of its substance?

The proposition appears to be established by strict calculation that the interior of the earth when cold will be able to absorb more than four times, possibly more than thirty times, the amount of water now on its surface. Now, it seems certain that in the manner first explained the earth will continue to lose both its superficial water and its atmosphere. The earth, the to the barn, the back of which was immediately on the road, to see a calf that self, are regarded as doomed at some self, are regarded as to fate. Melan-future day to the same fate. Melan-gall say. But why choly fatel some will say. complain of the general law of nature? of life, its high meridian strength, its evening decline and its midnight of blackness and death. Is the case of a world-is that the last term of a ser es?——Prof. Cookley.

MIGRATION OF BIRDS.

A Mysterious and Interesting Question in Zoology Walch Puzzles the Scientists.

Familiar as this migration of birds is to us, there is, perhaps, no quest on in zoology more obscure. The long flight; they take, and the unerring certainty with which they wing their way between the most distant places, arriving and depart ng at the same period year after year, are points in the history of birds of passage as mysterious as they are interesting. We know the most migrants fly after sundown, though many of them select a monalight night to cross the Mediterranean. But that their meteorological lastinet is not unerring is proved by the fact that thousands are every year drowned in their flights over the Atlantic and other oceans. Northern Africa and Western Asia are selected as winter quarters by most of them, and they may often be noticed on their way thither, to hang over towns at night, puzzled, in spite of their experience, by the shifting ight of the streets and houses

The swallow or the nightingale may sometimes be delayed by unexpected circumstances. Yet it is rarely that they arrive or depart many days sooner or later, one year from another, Foul weather or fair, heat or cold, the patting repair to some of their stations conctually on a given day, as if their movemen's were regulated by clockwork. The swiftness of flight which characterizes most birds enables them o cover a vast space in a brief time, The common black swift can fly 276 miles an hour, a speed which, if it could be maintained for less than half a day, would earry the bird from its winter to its summer quarters. The large purple swift of America is capable of ven greater feats on the wing. The chimney swallow is slower-ninety miles per hour being the limit of its power; but the passenger pigeon of the United States can accomplish a journey of 1,000 miles between sunrise and sun-

The distance traveled seems, moreever, to have no relation to the size of the traveler. The Swedish blue-throat raises its young among the Laps, and miovs its winter holidays among the regroes of the Soudan, while the tiny ruby-throated humming bird proceeds annually from Mexico to Newfoundfugitives from justice from a distant land and back again, though one would county, and afterward served a long imagine that so delicate a little fairy would be more at home among the eacti and agaves of the Tierre Callente than among the firs and fogs of the

-A man who brings suit against a

THE "HOODOOED" CLAIM.

Piece of Mining Property that Brings Bad Luck for Those There is a superstition prevailing among a number of the miners in that

locality that a certain claim in Iowa guleh is an unlucky one. It got started in some way that a man who worked in that claim was sure to meet with bad luck of some kind. He would either get blown up by giant powder, or fall down a ladder, or the mine would cave in on him, or some other equally undesirable occurrence would take place. By degrees the belief became so prevalent that property was considered "hoodoos!," to use a slang expression. The result that nobody will work it at all, and the owners are at a loss to know what to do

A Herald reporter having heard of the superstition, for, of course, it is nothing more or less than a superstiand asked him whether he was one of marvels of distant countries, he used to tion, accosted an old miner last night

"Well, to tell the truth, I must confess I do believe some of them, strange

as it may seem to you. "What foundation have you for your

back of some kind or other makes me friead hip. think there is something in it. I know one man who had not been at work in called a potcupine," which animal is that infernal hole more than two days found in Africa, says a chronicler of before he was taken down with pneu- the time and "which the in abitants monia, and he came very near dying. call of the urchin kind, covered with Another went to work there and his bristly hairs, which it naturally darks eabin was robbed before a week. A against the dogs when pursuing it; third one tried it, and he fell from a lad. moreover, these are, as I have seen, der and came near being killed; that more than a span long, sharp at each satisfied him and he quit. Besides these extremity, like the quills of a goose there have been several other mishaps where the feather ceases, but rather to men working the claim, and they followed each other in such close suc- black and white. cession and with such unvarying certainty that the men at last came to the conclusion that there was bad luck in some way connected with the property."
"Is the claim worth anything?" asked

the reporter. "Yes, if it was developed I think it would turn out to be good property; but I, for one, would not work in it if it was given to me.'

"Might it not be a job put up by some one who wants to buy it?" asked the

news hunter.

"I don't know about that," replied the miner, "but I don't see how so many of the men could get to believe it if there wasn't something in it. No, sir, it's no job, that claim has bad luck for any man that works it: You may call it superstition or anything you like. but I don't go to work in it.'

Seeing there was no chance to shake the old miner's belief that there was some supernatural agency that had east a spell of bad luck over the ill-fated property, the reporter left him firm in his faith .- Leadville Herald.

NOT WHAT SHE SEEMED.

The Other Side of the Young Lady the She sat at a window on a public street, and day after day the crowd who passed raw her at the sewing-machine. The old mea mentally remarked that she was a perfect lady, and the young men voted her the rival of a June rose. If she had raised her eyes to the window she might have met the pitying gaze of various bald-heads, and the admiring glances of legious of mashers, but she never did so. Noses were wiped and handkerchiefs waved street, Portland, Oregon, with a a foot of the glass, but she hemmed and tucked and gathered and

xistence of the outside world. It is probable that five hundred men inneed into that window in the course of the day, but the sew no machine never stopped humming on their ac-

count. Things had been going on this way for months when, only the other day, a wislower with a heart full of pity for the unfortunate got himself up regardless of expense and boldly entered the lace. The charmer was there alone. With a melting soul he approached the sewing-machine and laid his heart upon it. That is, he coughed, gurgled, stammered and inquired if wouldn't prefer to boss a fifteen-thousand-dollar brick house rather than reake shirts for seventy-five cents per

The charmer rose up. She had a shor, leg. That side of her face which the public had never seen displayed three moles and a bad scar. That eve which the public had never gazed into contained a squint, and she had bad front teeth. She made a grab at a vardstick and said something about "settling an old duffer's has a pretty infernally quick," and the widower broke for out doors. His sympathizing and palpitating heart was left behind him as he went, but the charmer picked it up and followed after him and heaved it into the gutter with the re-

"I've just been waiting for a chance to break some of your necks, and don't you put your hoofs in here again if you want to see next spring's dandelions." - Detroit Free Press.

Served Her Right.

A letter from London speaks in harsh terms of the Prince of Wales' treatment of women, and asserts that he is: in this regard, "simply a brute." Among the proofs of this is mentioned the fact that the celebrated American beauty, Miss Chamberlaine, who had become notorious for moving about after the Prince, was seated next to him at a supper at a ball and said, "in the merest fun: Jumbo, you eat too much." That was enough. Only the moment before, on terms of that familiar latimacy which any man might be glad to be with a young and pretty girl, he turned his shoulder to her without reply, and from that on, as far as he was oncerned, the famous Miss Chamberaine was incentinently dropped. After that there wasn't anything left but for her father and mother to take her We should think so! and she had better be kept there till she learns young woman and wins her for his how to behave.—Every Other Satur-wife somet mes gets heavy damages.

THE DANGER OF INSOMANIA.

If you are a sufferer from Sleeplesaness, that warning indication of serious nervous derangements, which, if not arrested, may derangements, which, if not arrested, may lead to most disastrous consequences, send a statement of your case to Ors. Starkey & Palen, 1109 Girard street, Philadelphia. They have successfully treated many such cases with their new Vitalizing remedy, which acts directly on the nervous centers. An opinion will be promptly given, and they will at the same time furnish you with reports of cases from which you will be able to judge for yourself as to the value of their special Treatment in your particular case.

particular case.

All orders for the Compound Oxygen Home Treatment directed to H. E. Mathews, 605 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, will be filled on the same terms as if sent directly to us in Philadelphia.

The First English Menagerie.

The first English menagerie is a pretty old affair, dating from the days of that furious hunter, who thought more of a deer than a man. King Henry I. With a pass'onate fondness for the those who believed the stories that were being circulated.

beg fervently from forcign sovereigns for lions, leopards, lynxes, camels and other animals that were not produced in England, and he kept his favorite wonders in the park of Woodstoek.

Paul, Earl of Orkney, although a subicet to the King of Norway, was conbelief?" asked the reporter.

The old miner took a fresh chew of tobacco and said: "The fact that so many who have worked it have had bad many who have worked it have had bad freed hip.

One especial pet was "a creature thicker, and speck'ed, as it were, with

The first elephant arrived in England at a much later period, being sent across the Channel in 1255, as a present from the King of France to Henry III. Crowds of people, as may be imagined, flocked to see the novel monster. Golden Days.

The Milwaukes Sentinus says un-St. Paul's Episcopal Church in that city "contains the finest window in the world-a triumph of art in stainedglass, such as can be found nowhere else." The central panel of the window is a reproduction of Dore's great painting, Christ Leaving the Pretorium. The entire window will cost about four thousand dollars.

-The past season on the Eric Canal has been the dullest for twenty years .-The school census of Iowa shows an in-

crease of 21,000 over last year.

TALL OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW.

Great and good results often spring from small deeds and so fatal diseases come of a seemingly trifling neglect. Colds neglected often lead to serious catarrhal troubles. If this is your case, lose no time in becoming acquainted with Dr. Sage's Ca-tarrh Remedy. Its healing virtues will surprise you. It is simple, efficacious, speedy, sure. Dull, heavy headache, obspeedy, sure. Dull, heavy headache, ob-struction of the nasal passages, discharges from the nose into the throat are symptems of this horrible complaint.

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