

BANDON RECORDER.

WHY NOT SPEAK ENGLISH?

The Use of Some Words in the Singular and Plural. Is cherub an English word? If so...

The Friendly Catfish. There is a species of fish that never looks at the clothes of the man who throws in the bait...

To catch the bullhead it is not necessary to tempt his appetite with a porridge of steak or to display an expensive lot of fishing tackle...

The Iron Pillar of Delhi. The famous iron pillar of Delhi is dealt with in Cassell's Magazine. The pillar is a solid shaft of wrought iron...

Another Name For It. "And now," said the inquisitive person who had been asking all sorts of impertinent questions...

An Ardent Reader. "Well," said the sheriff, with an air of satisfaction, "newspapers don't make no great right out of me, now I tell ye, for it's seldom ever I set down to look at one on 'em..."

His Back Ache. "I suppose," said the man with the searching eye, "that drink was your downfall!"

The Popular Tune. "What is your idea of a popular tune?" "A popular tune," said the man who takes music seriously, "is one that gets to be universally disliked..."

That is Love. Rosalie—What makes you think he is in love with you? Violet—The first time he called he left his gloves, the second time his cane, and last night he forgot his hat.

The Notorious Courtship. A young and popular member of parliament was addressing a meeting at which there was a considerable rowdy element present. Like the other speakers, he was frequently interrupted...

POLLY LARKIN

"Polly, I used to think this was a grand, beautiful old world to live in," said a gray-haired friend the other day. "I believed," he continued, "that if a man lived according to what his own conscience dictated, tried to make people happy around him, was a good and loyal citizen and attended strictly and conscientiously to business, that he would not want a fairer or better place to live in. Now it's all changed. You see I am a contractor and carpenter; have always had all I could do and have never had any fault found with my work. I have given employment to scores of men who were boys when I commenced work in the carpenter business. I have not laid much aside for a rainy day, for I had a big family to support and educate and an invalid wife, besides relatives to whom I had to extend a helping hand; but I reasoned, of course, that as long as I was able I could always find plenty of work to do. I have found that there is no place for a man after he is sixty years of age in my business. When the unions were first talked about I suppose I was one of the most ardent and enthusiastic supporters they had. I believed the unions were a good thing and talked in their favor to everybody who would listen to me, and I was angry when anyone differed with me and failed to see the strong and glowing side of the question, only to find out that to all intents and purposes the unions hold that a man is not good for anything when he has passed the sixtieth milestone. I just practically let myself out of business, Polly. Can't join the union because I am sixty years old, and I can't even drive a nail unless I go through a lot of red tape and get a permit. No matter how trifling the work, that permit must be obtained. Don't you think that is hard, Polly? Don't they think I need to live and have the wherewithal to exist with just as much as I did at twenty, thirty, forty or fifty years of age? In fact, I need it more, for when I was younger I could turn my hand to something else, but I have been in the harness too long, and you can't take an old plow-horse and make a race-horse out of him, neither can you take an old carpenter who has grown gray in the business and expect to make a physician or an editor or lawyer out of him, it's out of our line. We can show you the beautiful grain, the polish and richness of the various woods that would possibly escape the casual observer's eye, and grow almost eloquent when it came to talking of their various merits, but we couldn't sing you an opera. The hum of the saw, the ring of the hammer when we send our nails home to stay, that is our music. It is half my life, Polly, and to think of giving it up or having to get a permit every time I drive a nail goes against the grain. Just ask them for me, what is to become of the old carpenter?"

The shoes with the abominable high French heels show no signs of their popularity waning. To be sure there are medium and the low, flat comfortable heel. There are some few people who are sensible enough to insist upon comfort and will not countenance the present barbarous custom that throws the heel several inches higher than the ball of the foot and cramps their toes together. We can never denounce the Chinese custom of binding their baby's feet as long as we countenance the high-heel French shoes now in vogue. A shoe dealer said the other day that another year would see button shoes the popular fad and lace shoes on the wane. We are not surprised at anything in fashion's realm, for it is like history—it will repeat itself.

The British Inventor says: An idea that is often brought to us is that of a self-lighting cigarette. This is attained by attaching to the end of a cigarette a small portion of composition such as is used on safety matches. The invention has been patented by different people many times and crops with surprising regularity and most extraordinary persistency. Some people bring cigars with a blob of phosphorus stuck on top regardless of the fact that not only would such a composition in contact with good tobacco entirely spoil it, but the effect of drawing in the lighted chemicals would probably half suffocate the user. At other times the igniting composition is stuck at the side of a cigarette; and frequently a match head is fixed on a wire into a cigar. The inventor of a self-lighting cigar is always a non-smoker, we need hardly add, and always fails to see why his is one of the inventions that nobody wants.

What Our Schools Cost Us. It is probably not generally known that the United States spends annually \$27,000,000—the exact figures for 1900-1903 were, according to the report of the United States Commissioner of Education, \$26,043,226. Europe spent during the same period approximately \$246,000,000. The enrollment in the elementary schools of Europe is, however, in the neighborhood of 45,000,000, while in the United States is not much more than 16,000,000—although it is estimated that there were in 1901 almost 22,000,000 children of school-going age in this country. Our yearly expenditure per pupil averages \$22.

Best Paid Pension Clerk. The highest salaried woman at the Pension Bureau is Miss Anna Shirley, whom Commissioner Ware recently promoted to a position which pays \$1800 a year, says the Kansas City Star. Only one other woman has received so large a salary. Miss Shirley was appointed a clerk at the Pension Bureau about twenty-five years ago. During the greater part of her service she has been attached to the office of the chief clerk. For many years she has made up the bureau pay rolls, and she knows by name and appearance every one of the 1700 employees of the bureau.

Rich Hematite Deposit. Within the last year an industry of much importance to American paint manufacturers and dealers, has sprung into existence near Malaga, Spain. A rich vein of oxide of iron ore, known as hematite, valuable chiefly for the manufacture of red paint for structural iron work—has been developed. The production of hematite in the United States has been falling off in spite of an increasing demand.

One hundred and four property-owners of Wilmington, Del., availed themselves of their right to vote for members of the Board of Education at a recent election held there, and their votes decided the result.

The difference between a poor man and a rich man is that the poor man has both the appetite and the stomach, while the rich man's appetite is gone when he thinks of his stomach.

in shape yet. The felt hats that have been the rage all summer are a thing of the past. Everything in the new fall styles shows a tendency toward high crowns, and the hats are trimmed to a great extent with ostrich plumes and tipped jauntily back from the face. It is rather late in the day to show dude hats, but within the last few days some of our up-to-date milliners and suit-houses have exhibited the dude hats of pretty white straw, rather a wide brim and a crown not more than two to three inches high. The new conceit puts the dude hats of the past in the shade.

No more short, pouchy effects in suits, says Dame Fashion, and the advance fall styles concur in the above. Everything is the long close-fitting effect and are a decided contrast to what has been worn the past year. Some of the coats are half fitting and extend to the knees, others are of medium length and tight-fitting. A few of the new suits also show plain coat sleeves while others cling to the pouch effect that has been worn all summer. The new style is wonderfully becoming to the fortunate possessor of a fine form, and just as becoming to the short and dumpy little person, but they will wear it just the same. The day is yet to come when a fashion will be adopted that will be becoming to all.

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BRIEF REVIEW.

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A woman shows her love for a man when she gives him all she possesses. Sometimes the man never shows it again.

WISE MEN'S MISTAKES.

Some of the queer blunders made by famous writers. Now and then one meets with passages in the works of the most celebrated authors which display an ignorance of things that every schoolboy is supposed to know.

Sir Walter Scott in his "Heart of Midlothian" speaks of his heroine as having "the merit of those peacemakers to whom it is pronounced as a benediction that they shall inherit the earth." Born and bred and passing his life in Bible reading Scotland, Sir Walter was yet ignorant of the fact that it was to the meek that the inheritance of the earth was promised, and the benediction of the peacemakers was that "they shall be called the children of God."

Dickens in his "Tale of Two Cities" says "the name of the strong man of old Scripture descended to the chief functionary who worked the guillotine." One does not have to be a profound student of the French revolution to know that the notorious executioner who chopped off heads in the Place de la Revolution was named Sanson and not Sanson.

The lowest pupil in the lowest class in history in the public schools knows that it was Balboa who discovered the Pacific ocean, yet Keats in his immortal sonnet "On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer" makes Cortes the man who stood "silent upon a peak in Darien" and saw the great "south sea" stretching before him.

The great Gibbon, who was so intolerant of the errors of other men, speaks in his "Roman Empire" of "the Oxus and the Jaxartes, two rivers of ancient renown which descend from the mountains of India toward the Caspian sea." Yet every school geography shows that the two rivers flow into the sea of Aral, and the Jaxartes most certainly rises in no "mountains of India."

Shakespeare wrote of "the coast of Bohemia," and in his "Gertrude of Wyoming" Campbell had tigers prowling through the jungles of Pennsylvania. Such "ignorance in high places" cannot be excused, for, with ordinary ease, Gibbon, Shakespeare and Campbell could have ascertained the facts.

WOMAN.

Woman is the masterpiece.—Confucius. Shakespeare has no heroes, only heroines.—Huskin. Women teach us repose, civility and dignity.—Voltaire.

Woman is the most perfect when the most womanly.—Gladstone. If woman lost Eden, such as she alone can restore it.—Whittier.

There is a woman at the beginning of all great things.—Lamartine. Woman is last at the cross and earliest at the grave.—E. S. Barrett. A handsome woman is a jewel; a good woman is a treasure.—Sanidi. The sweetest thing in life is the unclouded welcome of a wife.—N. P. Willis.

For where is any author in the world who teaches such beauty as a woman's?—Shakespeare. Heaven has nothing more tender than a woman's heart when it is the abode of pity.—Luther.

"Anglo-Saxon English." There is an old fallacy that Anglo-Saxon words are the best. The fallacy is based on the belief that words of Anglo-Saxon origin are more simple and vigorous than those derived from Latin. In point of fact, some Anglo-Saxon words are obscure and long, and many of our commonest, most simple words are from the Latin. The London News tells a story in point.

A barrister more remarkable for the vigor of his address to juries than for his learning was commenting on the proceeding of the other party in a case under trial. "I do not know what gloss my learned friend is going to put upon this matter, but I will not mislead my words. I denounce it in plain, downright Anglo-Saxon as a nefarious transaction."

Early Mention of Niagara Falls. The first historical notices of Niagara falls are given in Lescarbot's record of the second voyage of Jacques Cartier, in the year 1535. On the maps published to illustrate Champlain's discoveries (date of maps either 1613 or 1614) the falls are indicated by a cross, but no description of the wonderful cataract is given, and the best geographical authorities living today doubt if the explorer mentioned ever saw the falls, Brinton's work to the contrary notwithstanding. Father Hennepin is believed to have written the first description of the falls that was ever penned by one who had personally visited the spot.

Solemn Warning. Uncle Archie—Have you formed an opinion as to the cause of Colonel Hixson's suicide? Tom—Yes, sir—remorse. His nephew needed money, and the wealthy uncle failed to advance it. The result was that the unhappy young man ran away and was never heard of afterward.—Kansas City Journal.

Going Too Far. Mrs. B.—I read in the paper that a woman, in looking after another woman as to what she had on, fell out of a window. Mr. B.—Well, that only goes to show that some women in trying to follow the fashions can go too far.—Illustrated Bits.

Occasionally one meets an individual so grudgingly that he seems to think he would be arrested for burglary if he broke into a smile.—Ohio State Journal.

The Unblushing Rascal. "Snifflus says that when he gets married he wants not only a pretty girl, but a good one." "The bigamist!"—Town Topics. Correct! This recipe is out of sight: To right wrong right you write right right.—Baltimore News. To get a nice polish on eyeglasses moisten with alcohol and polish as usual with chamois. By this means all grease is removed.

FACTS IN FEW LINES

A Boston girl has made a quilt out of her old stockings. Women only are now to be employed as officials in the Roumanian prisons for females.

The receipts from passenger traffic are greater on Japan's railways than those from freight.

It is expected that telegraphic communication with Fashoda will be established very shortly.

According to the monks of the Hospice of St. Bernard, the famous dogs save on an average twenty lives every year in the mountain.

President Loubet has authorized the Paris Museum of Natural History to accept M. Bouillet's collection of butterflies, which is valued at \$20,000.

London is the birthplace of the Young Men's Christian association, and, although it celebrated its eight years ago its semi-centennial, it has not become languid.

Illinois ranks first among the states in the manufacture of agricultural implements, bicycles, cars, glue and distilled liquors and in slaughtering and meat packing.

H. D. Richmond points out that it is quite fallacious to endeavor to test the acidity of milk with litmus paper, since it is possible to condemn all fresh milk as the result of applying that test.

In the case of the French ship which went ashore on the Goodwins evidence given in the admiralty court showed that by means of one short wireless message property to the amount of \$272,940 was saved.

Ox tail soup, now regarded as a national English dish, was first made by the very poor among Huguenot refugees from France, after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, because ox tails then had no market value.

The debts of most southern states diminish slowly, but the debts of southern cities are not generally considerable. New Orleans owes \$18,000,000, Louisville \$8,000,000, Kansas City \$6,000,000, Memphis \$3,300,000, Atlanta \$3,300,000 and Nashville \$3,500,000.

In the Irish house of lords, now the board room of the directors of the Bank of Ireland, are on view two great wooden chests, strongly bound in iron, which are believed to have contained the money with which King William III. paid his troops after the battle of the Boyne.

An association of prominent men has been organized in England to force parliament to create a royal commission which shall investigate the question of feeding England in time of war. The association advocates the old idea of establishing great granaries to hold a reserve supply of food.

John Eliot's Indian Bible of 1663 was on exhibition at the woman's board meeting in Boston, having been loaned by the town of Natick, by which it is owned. The book is in an excellent state of preservation. Two other copies of this Bible are in existence—one in Connecticut, the other in Europe.

The bubonic plague, which has now been in India more than six years, shows no sign of abating. There have been over 25,000 deaths a week from the plague for some time past. One week the number reached 26,647. It is calculated that since 1896 over 2,000,000 people have died in India from the plague.

The irrigation works recommended by the geological survey give interest to the report on the irrigation works of India. The net revenue to the government was 7.36 per cent on an outlay of \$110,000,000. The value of the crops raised on the irrigated area during the year is estimated at \$135,000,000—a sum in excess of the capital outlay.

Speaking of freight rates, Dr. Le Monnier, privy counselor of Germany, said in a recent lecture that the average freight charge in the United States was exactly one-half that of the German states railroads. The charge for wheat from Chicago to New York is but one-fourth as much as that from BOMB to the Rhine, a distance half as great.

A leper was exhibited at a lecture to an audience of Chicago university students the other day. Dr. James Nevins Hyde, the lecturer, said that leprosy is not dangerously contagious, that it is curable and that it is gradually disappearing from all countries. He does not believe that any drug capable of curing leprosy will ever be discovered. Cleanliness and good food, he asserted, are the surest and best remedies.

The Canadian government has issued a census bulletin which gives statistics as to agriculture in Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, which united compose the Northwest Territories. The total area of these territories is 190,963,117 acres. Of this area 75.99 per cent is unimproved. Field crops, exclusive of hay, occupy 53 per cent of the improved land, but only a fair beginning has been made with fruit trees and vegetables.

In view of the establishment of the department of commerce and labor it may be interesting to note that the internal commerce of the United States last year has been estimated by the government statisticians at \$20,000,000,000. Fifty years ago it was only \$2,305,000,000. The manufacture of the United States are nearly double those of Great Britain and Ireland and about equal to those of France, Germany and Russia combined.

In making a league baseball a rubber marble an inch in diameter is covered with coarse yarn. Then a winding machine gives it a layer of four ply blue yarn, after which it is soaked in cement solution and dried. This process is repeated until the exact size is gained, the last two layers being finer yarn. The horseshoe cover is sewed on by hand and the ball is then ironed. It must weigh just five ounces and measure exactly nine inches in circumference.

Coral From Italy. Much of the costly red, white and pink coral used for ornamental purposes is obtained from the coast of Italy. Men go out in boats and drag the rocky bottom of streams with wooden frames or nets, in which the coral becomes entangled, but the delicate branches are crushed in this way. The finest coral is obtained by diving.

It may appear to you that all the good jobs are taken, but by the time you are capable of filling one it will be vacant.—Atchison Globe.

NEW SHORT STORIES

The Queen's Revenge. The late Queen Draga of Serbia once thought fit to humiliate a lady who had not shown the courtesy due from subject to sovereign. In becoming King Alexander's consort Draga gave great offense to Belgrade's aristocracy, and even the ladies of the diplomatic corps resolved that they would not hold any communication with a queen whose upbringing they held had in certain essential respects been sadly neglected. But the example of the czar of Russia, whose congratulations were warm and public, swept away their scruples, and the royal lady was duly "received."

Still, some of the queen's own countrywomen, declaring that they were made of sterner stuff, held out and showed the royal lady that their memories were as tenacious as their will.

One of these was the wife of a former minister of state, and, being also the president of a Belgrade committee, she had to appear in this latter capacity before Queen Draga. When admitted, together with several other ladies, to the portals of the Konak, here she was managed to escape the sovereign's taper fingers. Next day she boastfully braided the fact abroad. A lady present informed her husband, who at once communicated the matter to the king, for in Serbia, as in most capitals, spiny gossip spreads like wildfire.

Two days later a royal carriage, empty, drove up to the door of the lady who was so chary with her lips. The servant brought and delivered a written order from the queen calling on the recalcitrant fair one to appear at once at the palace. This summons could not well be disobeyed, and, after all, it was an honor which obliged her to nothing. So she took her place in the gorgeous vehicle and alighted at the portals of the Konak. Here she was about to wend her way to the royal reception room when she was suddenly confronted on the threshold by the queen herself, who, without uttering a word, stretched forth her hand to be kissed. The lady, having no choice, kissed the monarch's fingers, whereupon Queen Draga, her eyes flaming, stamped angrily and exclaimed, "And now begone!" The humiliated visitor took herself away and, finding no royal carriage awaiting her, had to walk home.

His Shoulder to the Wheel. Eugene H. Lehman, the first American to be awarded the Rhodes scholarship at Oxford, is a self-made student. His credentials were indisputable, for

he showed a percentage higher than those submitted by a score of other students. Naturally he had to submit to the interviews of boys' journals and "success" papers, so that his career might be the inspiration for other struggling youths. "How did you manage to work your way through college so successfully?" asked an important representative of a very unimportant journal. "By keeping my shoulder to the wheel," replied Lehman tartly. The answer will be appreciated when it is understood that young Lehman worked his way through Yale with money earned in pushing an invalid in her chair for 25 cents an hour.—Boston Post.

An Appropriate Text. Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow tells this story of a "very appropriate text." He says that a friend of his, who he insists was not a Kansan, managed to combine a "zeal for the Lord" with a love of the almighty dollar. Having completed his theological education, Providence took care of his own and brought the young minister in contact with the daughter of a Virginia grape grower and wine maker. The young theologian was quick to grasp the situation, and he married the girl on the Old Dominion plantation. Returning from a brief wedding trip among the Virginia hills, he was invited to occupy the pulpit of the church his new father-in-law attended.

When he came to preach he announced his text as Isaiah v. 1. To the intense amusement of his congregation the verse read: "Now I will sing to my well beloved a song of my beloved, touching his vineyard. My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill."

A Ghostly Time. Lord Herbert, a young peer, after making his first address in the British house of lords was asked by a friend if he found it difficult to speak before that chilly assemblage. "Difficult," he replied. "It was like addressing sheet-tombstones by torchlight."

A Deep Sea Tragedy. Flora—Too bad about Gussie, wasn't it? Clara—Dear me! I haven't heard. Tell me, quick! Flora—He fell desperately in love with a girl he met on an ocean steamer, but she threw him over.—Chicago Tribune.

Where there is one scholar who becomes insane through overstudy, there are hundreds who remain insane by reason of understudy.—Boston Transcript.

Throwing the Slipper at a Wedding. The throwing of the slipper after the bride comes apparently from barbarous times, when the relations of man and wife were really very much akin to those of master and slave, for it seems that the shoe was an emblem of authority, and at an Anglo-Saxon marriage a shoe was given by the bride's father to her husband in token of transference of power over her, the groom usually indicating his appreciation of that fact by tapping his new wife lightly on the head with it.

CHOICE MISCELLANY

Houseboats on the Mississippi. There is an especial charm about life on a houseboat on the Mississippi. Unlike houseboats on most bodies of water, they can land whenever they will and enjoy any chance pleasure by the way. Cities are in easy reach, and even a theater party can be indulged in at short notice. Between St. Paul and St. Louis seven magnificent rivers can be reached by boats passing through more than that number of states.

From La Crosse to St. Louis houseboats meet the eye every few moments. At every town along the river one sees boats lying on the shore. They are usually moored in little bays, with their launches aloft, and shaded by the overhanging branches of trees.

When a steamer passes the occupants appear at the doors and windows and sometimes go to the upper deck to wave their greetings. When the water is very high the boats fit in so perfectly that the lovely green foliage seems to have grown in anticipation of the coming of each particular boat.

Numerous houseboats are in course of construction along the rivers. Many are to be used by their owners to visit the St. Louis exposition next year.—Minneapolis Journal.

Spoon Made by King Peter. Angeline Nixon Bates, daughter of W. O. Bates of Woodruff place, has a spoon which was made by Peter, the new king of Servia. It was sent to Angeline a year or more ago by Mrs. Alfred Stead, formerly Miss Hussey of this city, during her trip around the world. During a visit to Paris Mrs. Stead met Prince Peter, saw his studio, and, admiring a spoon which the prince had made, she decided upon it as a present for her little friend. She wrote to Mr. and Mrs. Bates the story of her visit to the prince's studio, intimating that, for the time being at least, he was in financial straits and that spoon making was not altogether a pastime art with him.

The spoon is of dull, heavy silver and extremely odd and graceful in shape. The bowl resembles one corner of a conventionalized shell, with radiating lines on the back. The handle is twisted somewhat like a vine, and at the end there is a flower and seed design suggesting the lotus. The cover in which the spoon came was evidently the work of Prince Peter also. It is leather, stamped in design similar to that of the spoon and bearing in one corner his monogram.—Indianapolis News.

Subtleties of London English. At the Southwark coroner's court the coroner, having concluded the evidence in an inquest, suggested that the jury should return a verdict of "death by misadventure."

The Foreman—We agree to a verdict of accidental death. The Coroner—Well, that's the same thing. The Foreman—Oh, no, Mr. Coroner. The Coroner—What is the difference? The Foreman—Well, you see, these things get into the newspapers, and when people read a verdict of "misadventure" they will conclude that the deceased was killed in a squabble, seeing that it happened at a public house.

The Coroner—And does "accidental death" mean anything different in the minds of the people you refer to? The Foreman—Yes, sir. An accident is an accident, and no one touched the deceased, but misadventure makes people think he got shoved over. We'll have it accidental death if it's all the same to you, Mr. Coroner.

Eventually the coroner said that he did not see where the misunderstanding could arise, but doubted the jury knew best in the matter.—St. James Gazette.

Silk From Wood Fiber. Artificial silk is now being made in Europe from wood fiber under an English patent. The American consul at Stettin writes of it: "The sample shown me was very soft and of a cream color. Each thread is made up of eighteen single strands. A single strand is hardly perceptible when naked eye. As to the relative strength of a real silk thread and this imitation, the real silk is two-thirds stronger. It is said to take coloring or dyeing readily and when woven into pieces has the appearance of real silk. It is impossible to get samples here or information as to the process of manufacturing, excepting that no particular kind of wood is required, and that the pulp undergoes a chemical process and is pressed through very fine tubes by hydraulic pressure, forming the single strands which go to make up the thread."

Our Flour in China. The popularity of American flour in China is attracting attention on both sides of the globe. The British consul general at Canton has reported that from China to London and published in that city states that the demand for flour among emigrants returned from the United States is so great that the quantity of flour imported in 1902 exceeded that of 1901 by 95,831,328 pounds and was also some 78,400,000 pounds in excess of the average for the past five years. Stated in dollars, we are now selling to the Chinese \$4,607,000 worth of flour annually.

States Out of Debt. The addition of Ohio to the number of states free of debt brings up the total to six, the other states having no debt outstanding being Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, New Jersey and West Virginia. Several states have only a nominal debt, in which group are Delaware, Kansas, Michigan, Nevada, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming.

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