For and About Women Folks

A Man and His Mother.

THE death of a Kansas City man the other day revealed a most remarkable will. It was unique not because of the extent of the estate bequeathed, nor because of unusual circumstances of the mere benefactions, but rather because it contained this amazing paragraph: "To my son I leave nothing, as I am under no obligations to him; to my dear old mother I leave nothing, as I am under no obligations to her."

"In these simple words," comments the Kansas City Journal, "is revealed an abysmal tragedy of the human soul. What manner of being was he who now lies under the sod and who left so awful a heritage of ingratitude to add to the sorrows of the mother who survives him? 'To my dear old mother I leave nothing, as I am under no obligations to her.' In all the diapason of dying maledictions since man was born of woman no more appalling imprecation was ever given to the world. One might with great stretch of the imagination conceive of circumstances where a man on the brink of the grave could in the distorted delirium of a fleeting spirit forget his obligations to his mother, and sometimes men in the heat of sudden passion have said and done things reflecting ingratitude for the parent who bore them. But here we have to deal with one who, in the cool deliberation of executing a legal document makes a public record of the shame.

"What a wretched heart it was that did not echo God's immortal anthem which rings still when all else is gone! What a debasement of manhood, that did not reflect the sublime glory of a mother's smiles, a mother's tears, a mother's prayers and a mother's love! How debased the nature that did not hold one single chord attuned to the memory of a childhood guarded and protected by the unselfish ministrations of a mother whose tired hands, tired feet, tired eyes and aching heart were the price of his own being!

"He has gone out of the world and to his deaf ears the thunderous activities of its progress are stilled. But one survives him in whose bosom gnaws the awful serpent's tooth of his thanklessness. Soon her tired hands will be folded forever, her tired eyes will close in sleep and her tired feet will be at rest. And her last days, of which he should have been the stay and comfort, will be embittered with his brutal words of ingratitude and his heartless act of abandonment."

"A mother's love!
If there be one thing pure,
Where all else beside is sullied,
That can endure.
When all things else have passed away,
If there be aught
Surpassing human deed, or word, or thought,
It is a mother's love."

Day of College Women.

College women are having their day in the work of the world, whether college pass that only the college-bred woman can men are falling or not, and it is coming to hope to attain to more than mediocrity in the important affairs of life, whether it is only the scientific training of a baby or the administering of public affairs. Miss Kate Holliday Claghorn, a graduate of Bryn Mawr college, with the degree of doctor of philosophy conferred by Yale, has been appointed registrar of the New York tenement house department by Commissioner Butler.

She has gained quite a reputation as a statistician, her services having been much sought after for many years in New York, she having held the office of assistant registrar since the opening of the department. She prepared valuable data for the report of the industrial commission of 1901 on immigration and education for the federal census and for the tenement house problems. The appointment is the occasion of much congratulation on the part of the women interested in the tenement house questions of New York and was under civil service regulations, Miss Claghorn being the first on the eligible list. She will have entire charge of the work of the department's bureau of records.

Two other women who are doing important work are Miss Frances A. Kellor, reappointed director of the international committee of research, and Mrs. Charles A. Beard of Columbia university, who is assisting Miss Kellor in the work of getting a manual for the study of social problems ready for the press. It is designed for the use of colleges, libraries and organizations and covers some 400 subjects.

Miss Susan M. Kingsbury, Ph. D., former instructor at Vassar, is now engaged in investigations for the commission on industrial and technical education. For these lines of work women seem to be particularly fitted and a college course is the best preliminary training.

Women as Builders.

The number of women who practice the profession of architecture is very much greater than the number of women architects, anomalous as this may seem.

Most of the women who make a business of building houses have men in their offices to do the architectural part of the work for them, reports the New York Sun. Usually they begin as decorators, and if they prosper they soon find that orders to build houses also come to them.

Usually they have previously added an architect to their office staff, or simple efforts at decoration frequently demand the skill of a trained architect. After a while the architect builds the houses when the orders begin to come in.

There are many women decorators now prosperous enough to have architects in their employ. One of these now occupies a four-story building in a side street off Fifth avenue merely for her own business. She began in one room downtown only a few years ago.

Elsie de Wolfe has met with great success since she went in for house decoration and she has found many clients among her wealthy friends. She will probably be the next person in her line of business to undertake the building of houses.

Woman Controls a Bank.

York Harbor, Me., is the summer residence of many notable persons, including William Dean Howells, James K. Hackett, Thomas Nelson Page, "Mark Twain," John Fox, jr., ex-Governor Frank W. Rollins, Dr. W. T. Councilman, President Tucker of Dartmouth college and Francis Lynde Stetson, but the parent village, York, is the proud claimant of the only woman bank president in New England, Mrs. Elizabeth Burleigh Davidson. She is the head of the York County National bank. It is a flourishing institution and in summer many deposits are made by famous visitors to the harbor.

The bank was organized in February, 1903, with James T. Davidson, president, and W. M. Walker, vice president. Mrs. Davidson at that time was very much interested in her home duties. And these home duties were as arduous as the duties of the head of the bank, for in the Davidson family there were six lively children. In 1901 Mr. Davidson died. Vice President Walker was elected as his successor and Mrs. Davidson, to the general surprise of Maine people, was made vice president of the institution.

Mrs. Davidson was very well informed on the business of the bank. Besides, she is possessed of a bright and alert mind. She stepped into the active life of the institution as though she had worked in the world of finance for many years. From the beginning of her financial career she showed much enthusiasm and acumen. Every day she spent several hours in her office, consulting the directors on investments, and even ventured to suggest many avenues for profitable use of the funds.

The other officers ceased to regard her as a woman; they accepted her on a basis of masculine ability; they regarded her as one of themselves. Consequently when the president of the bank died in 1903 the directors unanimously elected Mrs. Davidson to the office. In her higher position she showed even greater activity and sagacity. She assumed undisputed control of the institution. Other banking men in the state when they heard of her smiled; later they said she was a very bright woman. They came to have much respect for her financial shrewdness and cleverness. The York County National bank received a higher rating.

This institution with a woman at its head is located in the village center near the old gaol, with the ancient courthouse and old Congregational church for other neighbors. It is housed in a neat, comfortable $12,000 building—a building as up-to-date as any small bank building in New England. Mrs. Davidson is very proud of the attractive quarters of the York County National bank.

Reason She Left.

Aunt Emeline is the best loved woman in Saymouth, for her charity is alike of hand and heart, relates Youth's Companion. Like many other excellent persons, Aunt Emeline is not a church member, but she is a regular attendant at the village church, which is so near her cottage as to seem under the same roof.

When, at the close of a recent sermon, the minister requested all those present who had never united with the church to retire at the end of the service, everybody was surprised to see Aunt Emeline start down the aisle.

"Aunt Emeline," the minister called, softly, "that does not apply to you."

"That isn't why I'm going," Aunt Emeline responded, serenely. "I smell my dinner burning up."

A Young Girl's "Coming Out."

There is a young debutante in Philadelphia, Miss Clara Waterman Knight, of whom it is said by the North American that two balls given in her honor cost, respectively, $20,000 and $24,000, a total of $44,000. The first was a dinner dance, or "pink cotillion," given for Miss Knight by her father, Edward Collings Knight, and the second a ball at the new and fine Bellevue-Stratford hotel, arranged by her rich bachelor uncle, Edward Waterman Knight. Most of us will wonder how so much money could be expended in such a cause, and let us try to gather some of the chief items of expense from the story of the uncle's ball. The ballroom of the hotel was decorated as a garden, and in this garden bloomed 10,000 cut flowers, 2,500 of them American Beauty roses. American Beauty roses are $1 apiece just now, but Mr. Knight's order was so large it emptied all the hothouses within easy train distance of Philadelphia, so some of the roses cost $2.50 each. A great bank of greenery ran from the ballroom floor up to the galleries, cutting the ballroom down to half its usual size. Here and there in the green were broad spreads of white blossoms. Most of these big masses of blossoms were mountain laurel in bloom. Some of the trees were found in the greeneries of Philadelphia and neighboring cities, and others were brought from the south. Other white blossoms were those of the white lilac, another bush not easy to find in bloom at this season, without going far to the southward. Hundreds and hundreds of palms and ferns and palmettos helped to make up the bank of green. Rare cybodium ferns stood at the corners and in middle boxes, the finest specimens to be had in the country. Boston ferns were brought all the way from the Pacific northwest. In the Clover room and the Red room, where the ball supper was served, there were immense masses of pink roses and great bouquets of American Beauties. It is figured that the decorations cost $10,000, the hotel rent for the night was $1,000, the cost of the ball supper and wine for 1,000 persons is put at $12,000, with $1,000 for additional expenses of various sorts. This second social function for an 18-year-old girl, charming, of course, was a great success. "All society was there, but the Philadelphia set—the old time set as opposed to the Newport smart set—was most in evidence." Finally, and as interesting as anything, we are told that "the father made his money in sugar and multiplied it in stocks, and the uncle is in steel manufactures, in mines and western ranches. They really won't miss the money."

Rich and Economical.

In line with her ideas of unostentatiousness and frugality, Mrs. Anne Weightman Walker of Philadelphia, the richest woman in America, will live over a store. She intends to convert the old Weightman mansion at 1336-38 Walnut street into a paying proposition, and from rentals to add to the $50,000,000 left her by her father, the chemist.

The old homestead stands in one of the most desirable locations in the city. The fact that it yielded no returns and that the taxation upon it is very heavy has not been pleasing to Mrs. Walker, and she has decided to have the basement and first floor converted into stores. She will occupy the upper floors.

In strict economy of this kind Mrs. Walker is very much like that other rich woman, Mrs. Hetty Green, who frequently finds it advantageous in a financial way to live over stores she owns or in small apartments. Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Green have something else in common—each has an income of about $2,000,000 a year.

The fact that Mrs. Walker will make this use of the homestead property has disposed of the story that she wishes to become a social leader and would use the old Weightman mansion as the scene of social functions. Mrs. Jones Wister, who has brought suit against Mrs. Walker in an effort to break the will of William Weightman, by which Mrs. Walker received the entire fortune, remains the social leader, while Mrs. Walker keeps the millions.

For the Children's Room.

There come friezes of wall paper for the nursery that tell long stories in clear black outline, filled in with gay flat colors which are thrown into high relief by a one-toned background.

It is always a winsome tale told in these pictorial friezes. The Pierrot frieze is one of the most popular. The background is in pale gray, against which Pierrot's white costume makes a clear, dainty contrast. The series of long, oblong pictures, running lengthwise under the ceiling, depict various trials and happinesses in Pierrot's existence. Color is introduced in vivid little flashes—in a rosette on white slippers, in a ribbon or mandolin, in a Columbine costume, in the feathers of a bird. There are some dozen or more pictures in the series.

Mother Goose tales have furnished the frieze artist with rich suggestions for decoration and color, but there is simplicity of treatment always, no matter how intricate the scene is.

Noah's ark toys offered material for frieze decoration that is very taking. The stiff wooden effect gives an Egyptian character to the pictures.

Little Dutch children cut up all sorts of tricks against clear pale blue or dark blue backgrounds that set their white caps and yellow sabots gleaming. In one picture a little group of the small people stand awed before a snow man, in another the group is being chased by a rooster almost as big as they are, in another the mischievous little company is marching to bed, each with candle in hand, and in another a row of little maidens, reaching the length of the picture, stand swinging hands.

It is easy to imagine the joy that these frieze stories give to children from the delight that they give grown up children who step in for further inspection of them.

Economy in Little Things.

Do not throw away your lemon peel. Fill a bottle with rectified spirit, and, when using lemons, cut off the yellow part of the rind and place in the spirit. You will find this quite as good as the essence of lemon which is sold in the shops. Essence of orange can be made in the same way.

Housekeepers frequently find a difficulty in using coal dust so as to avoid waste. An excellent way is to place a piece of paper about ten inches long and about six inches wide, pile coal dust on it, lift carefully, and place gently on the fire. The corner of the paper will, of course, catch light, but the part under the coal dust will remain. If left undisturbed this will gradually burn through and improve the fire instead of causing the usual deadness which results from burning coal dust.

The terrific onslaught to which very muddy boots are subjected with the "hard brush" often injures the leather, and always raises a deal of dust, besides making the brusher tired. A very good, inexpensive mud brush may be made by glueing a strip of Brussels carpet to a convenient sized piece of wood. This will quickly remove mud from boots without any injury to leather and with less dust and labor than a brush.

As a cleansing agent the virtues of paraffin are fairly well known; but few people know that it is the best thing with which to clean velvet. The method of using is to stretch the velvet on a table, dampen a small piece of flannel with paraffin, and rub the pile of the velvet gently and briskly. As soon as the flannel gets dirty take another piece. The velvet will look like new, the most delicate colors being restored by this process. The objectionable smell soon wears off.

The average housewife looks askance at washing soda. It ruins both colors and hands; yet it is useful. Very dirty or soiled linen may be cleaned by boiling in fairly strong soda water. A little soda dissolved and added to the bluing water prevents streaking. A good bleacher is made by boiling one pound of soda in a quart of water. Add a packet of chloride of lime; strain and bottle, and discolored doorsteps and tables that are a bad color may be cleaned with the fluid. Well brush over and leave for the night, then wash well off in the morning.

In making batter for paper hanging add a small lump of soda after it is made. This adds greatly to its adhesive qualities. Burnt saucepans are easily cleaned by filling with cold water, adding a lump of soda, and bringing to the boil. The tea tastes better if the kettle gets an occasional soda water bath.

Leaves from Fashion's Notebook.

Cotillion favors and dinner cards are now colonial in design.

Plaid ribbon and shaded silks are popular as hat trimmings.

If a woman has the money to spend, she may pay $75 for her parasol next summer. Of handkerchief linen, sheer and fine and hand embroidered, these parasols are most appropriate adjuncts to the lingerie gowns which are to be worn this summer. All the work on the parasols is done in Paris, and it is exquisitely fine and beautiful. Naturally, hand work commands a high price, and these parasols range in price from $5 to $75.

The milliners tell us that extreme effects in hats have gone out of fashion, but a survey of the early displays in New York shop windows and in the shops is rather discouraging. The first tailored hats are being shown, and they are for the most part startling creations. The very small hat is in the ascendancy.

Brown tulle or mailnes appears on a great many bandeaus, probably because of the prevalence of brown hair, which the bandeaus are supposed to match. Many of the hats require elaborate coiffures for their best effect, and the brown bandeaus build up and supplement the hair in exactly the right fashion.

The all white gown is to be very much the thing. Never have so many lovely white muslin and linen gowns been shown as at the present. Sheer, plain white, without dots or figures, is the preferred material, and handkerchief linen is the favorite above all others. Ingenuity has been about exhausted, it would seem, in the decoration of these simply built, but highly ornamental gowns. The princess gown fitted in at the waist line with lace insertions are redeemed from monotony by the variety of designs it has been possible to develop.

When it comes to choosing colors for her gowns no one can accuse Mrs. Roosevelt of being conventional. At the inauguration ball she choose a robin's egg blue and all her friends threw up their hands. "Why, it is never worn at night," they protested. "It is suitable only for a morning gown or a second-best walking skirt." But she said she would give it a trial. At the dress parade in the White House when her daughter became a bride Mrs. Roosevelt wore a rather dark shade of brown. It was the only costume of that color in the procession. There were champagne cloths and pale chocolates and tans and fawn colors, pink and blue and greens, but the substantial brown, dear to our grandmothers, was seen only in the one instance. Mrs. Roosevelt's gown was livened with creamy lace, illuminated with threads of gold, and made further gay by the big bouquet of lady slipper orchids at her corsage.

Chat About Women.

Mrs. Simon Kruse of Chicago, who recently inherited $1,000,000, will build a home in Minneapolis, Minn., for dependent women. That city was selected because it was in that city that Albert Johnson, the relative who left her his entire fortune, made his money.

In the name of her father and mother Helen Gould, with the assistance of Elizabeth Altman, annually distributes $500,000 in charity. Probably Miss Gould supports directly and indirectly more charities than any person living. Her donations annually reach 500 or more beneficiaries. Her total disbursements during the last eight years—and they are all made with business judgment and through a perfect system—reach $4,000,000.

In a somewhat sensational book on woman Dr. Emil Reich, the famous Hungarian professor, acknowledges that English women have beauty and dignity, but deplores the fact that they are becoming Americanized. He gives the palm to the brilliant Parisienne because of her grace, charm and tact, awarding second place to the Irish girl, "the Lorelei of the British isles, possessing the grace of a demimondaine and the virtue of a nun." Dr. Reich has small praise for the American woman, and the German hausfrau has lowest place in his estimation.

Mrs. Roosevelt has one well-developed hobby, and that is the collection of old china. Under her supervision one of the most valuable collections in this country has been placed on exhibition in the basement of the White House, and it is a proud day when she can add something of historic worth to the treasures. The exhibit is made up entirely of remnants of the dinner sets which formerly served the presidential families. It begins with some rare gold-trimmed plates and cups and saucers, which were the pride of Martha Washington's heart, and continues down to the era of Mrs. McKinley.

Walkerton, Ind., has a successful young farmer in the person of Lona Dare, a 14-year-old girl, who could support herself out of her produce if it were not that she has a father and a home. Two years ago she cultivated seven acres. Last year she planted two acres of cucumbers (making her own contract with a pickle manufacturer), five acres of corn, and half an acre of potatoes. She is said to net $50 an acre by her industry. Her father encourages her in her inclination for farm work by letting her have all the land she wants.

Dr. Mary Walker, celebrated as a wearer of men's clothing, is sick in a Washington hospital. She appeared at the door of the institution a few evenings ago and was supposed to be a man, but she explained: "My name is Dr. Mary Walker. I am a woman, although I dress in men's clothing. Every one who knows me knows that I find it more convenient. I have bronchitis. I am my own physician. All I want is a room here in the hospital until I get well. I will not tell my age on the ground that I am a public man and don't want to be bothered. So just give me a room." Dr. Walker, it is reported, is doing well at the hospital and will probably be out in a few days.

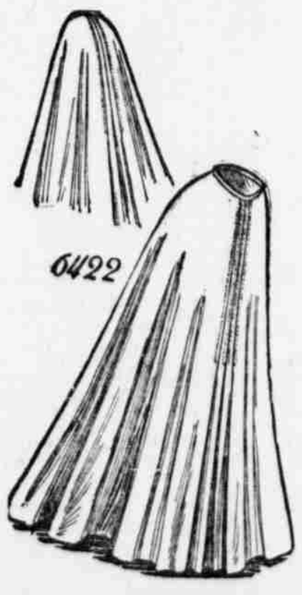
Hints on Latest Fashions

For the accommodation of readers of The Bee these patterns, which usually retail at from 25 to 50 cents each, will be furnished at the nominal price of 10 cents. A supply is now kept at our office, so those who wish any pattern may get it either by calling or enclosing 10 cents, addressed "Pattern Department, Bee, Omaha."

NO. 6429—LADIES' APRON.

What would womankind do without the ever-useful apron to protect her gowns? In performing any task about the house dirt is sure to get on one and the wise woman knows that an apron at the right time is worth the cost of a dress. The sketch shows a new design for an apron which covers one completely. It is the only sensible kind for real service, as it insures the safe wearing of any gown into the kitchen, and is yet not unattractive. The fanciful yoke may be edged with plain white bands or be neatly stitched. The full blouse portion is not only pretty and becoming, but practical, as it allows plenty of room for the waist beneath. The square Dutch neck is neat and easily finished. For an apron of this kind an inexpensive gingham or percale would prove most serviceable. In the medium size 4¼ yards of 36-inch material are necessary.

Sizes, 32 to 42 inches, bust measure.



NO. 6422—A NEW CIRCULAR SKIRT.

Every sort of fashionable skirt, according to the new regime, must be circular in cut. The most graceful effects are to be obtained by this mode, and here is sketched a walking skirt, with pleats in front and back to prevent sagging. The skirt fits smoothly over the hips and falls thence in graceful ripples to the floor. A skirt of this kind may be made of any seasonable material, being very modish as a walking skirt or as part of a tailored gown. The pattern is not difficult to follow and the least experienced will find no barriers to its successful production. Broadcloth, serge, brilliantine, a novelty wool or silk may be used. For the medium size 4⅝ yards of 44-inch material are needed.

Sizes, 20 to 30 inches waist measure.

New Spring Offerings in House Furnishings

DINING ROOM FURNITURE

A large shipment of dining room furniture has just arrived. This stock was selected from the cream of the leading manufacturers of the FURNITURE WORLD—consisting of all the popular finishes such as Golden Oak, Weathered Oak, Early English, Fumed Oak, Dulled and Polished Mahogany—all at popular medium prices.

Something new in China Cabinets, full bent glass, with beautiful columns at corner to protest glass, made of solid quartered oak, French legs, claw feet, one mirror in back; price..... 26.00

Beautiful design, pedestal center extension table, 48-inch top, 8 feet long, highly polished, has lock to keep pedestal together, made of finished quality quartered oak and claw feet; price..... 32.00

Sideboard, made of select quarter-sawed oak, hand rubbed and polished, beautiful design, pilaster front, claw feet, two small drawers, two cupboard doors with round cross bands, quarter-sawed corners, one large linen drawer and ONE SECRET DRAWER FOR VALUABLES, large plate mirror; price..... 36.50

Others in quarter-sawed oak and polished, from $15.00 up.

Quarter-sawed and polished oak Buffet, two small drawers, one lined for silver, one large linen drawer, two cupboard doors with Opalite glass in panels, something new and very handsome; price..... 30.00

Dining room Chairs, box seat, quarter-sawed and polished oak, genuine leather seat, for $2.60; other grades in prices up to... 5.00

Our recent purchases of HOUSE FURNISHINGS for the SPRING TRADE have been arriving daily. We have put more energy and more study in the selection of each article than ever before and the result has splendidly justified the effort. We are now ready for you with the newest, choicest and best collection of house furnishings in the CITY, and all of the good kind. It costs no more to buy now and it is a satisfaction to know you are getting first and best choice of the new things, none but dependable UP-TO-DATE goods no matter how low the price. The many special offerings of this week are worthy of your attention.

Advance Showing of Lace Curtains FOR THE SPRING SEASON

Having made early contracts with manufacturers and having placed our import orders early, we are enabled, in the face of an advancing market, to offer curtains and curtain materials at last season's prices, and in some cases even less. See display in our window.

Cluny Curtains, white and ecru, excellent quality of net, well made, per pair..... 2.50

Cluny Curtains, ecru only, double net, wide insertion and lace, per pair..... 6.00

Cluny Curtains, hand-made and hand-mounted, 6½-inch insertion, 3-inch lace edging, best quality of French net, per pair..... 15.00

Cluny Curtains, hand mounted, extra heavy insertion and edging, per pair..... 9.50

Hand-made Arabian Curtains, wide border, 50 inches wide, 3½ yards long, per pair..... 15.00

COLORED MADRAS CURTAINS

Our selection of Madras Curtains, in all colorings, is particularly attractive—colors specially adapted to harmonize with any interior decoration and suitable for parlor over-drapes, hall, library, drawing room or bedroom curtains; we are showing an extensive assortment in all colors; at, per pair..... 5.50

CLEARANCE SALE OF

LINOLEUMS AND OIL CLOTHS

We have a large assortment of dropped patterns and cut rolls of LINOLEUM AND OIL CLOTH which must be closed out to make room for our SPRING STOCK. They are just as good patterns as some of the new ones, but they cannot be duplicated and we are going to make a great sacrifice price in order to close out the lot.

Lot 1 consists of about 20 pieces of the best grade of Lineoleum, our regular 85c quality, all go in this sale at, per square yard..... 49c

Lot 2 is the regular 75c quality, and many choice designs to close out at, per square yard..... 45c

Lot 3—Short lengths of all grades—enough for kitchen or small room—to close, at, per square yard..... 35c

Lot 4—Remnants of Linoleum and Inlaid Linoleum, to close at, per square yard..... 25c

Lot 5—This lot contains many imported Inlaid Linoleums, the kind the color goes through to the back and does not wear off—one or two rolls of a kind—regular $1.65 quality—sale price..... 1.20

Lot 6—Best grade of Domestic Inlaid Linoleum, $1.35 quality—sale price..... 82½c

Lot 7—Best grade of Inlaid Linoleum, some slightly damaged—sale price..... 75c

Oilcloths in all widths—25c, 22½c, 20c and..... 18c

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Strong
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The Only Brace that Braces.
Produces that military effect so much desired. Positively cures the habit of stooping.
Women's, Misses' and Boys', all sizes $1.00
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BOSTON STORE DRUG DEPT., 16th and Douglas Sts.
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