Tribune. So there is plenty of muff in the Emitted States. Who takes it? An ormortal probably numbers no takers among his acquaintances; hat, according to dealers, this may be because he has no access to the sancsanctorum. It is in the east that the sale of snuff is most decidedly inscreening, and, of all cities, Boston meens most enthusiastic over the genile art. There is a legend that womare beginning to exchange silver manifiboxes as Christmas presents, but shis story seems to bear the light South of playful fancy. But statistics, maite of their evil reputation, must Ba certain amount of truth, and figmacs declare that New England is now the happy hunting ground of the small seller. The speculative brain of mmathematical turn may find pleasure me calculating how long it will be be-More snufftaking assumes the dignity Boston fad.

In the south it is less surprising to and snufftaking. Among the old negroes and the "po' white trash" the Manbit is known to be general, but few mealine how widespread among the old--ex generation of gentlewomen is the gractice of "dipping," or rubbing the with snuff. The poorer classes a stick for the purpose, while the manufacture of little ivory wands for The rich is a steady, if diminutive, instry. But among the well to do "dipping" is losing ground, for as the ald enthusiasts die none arise to take wier places. But "dipping" is said to The on the increase in this state. Cercliminly the sale of anuff goes merrily on.

Until recent years New Jersey and Pennsylvania made most of the coundry's snuff. Last year, however, the - embput of these states showed a decline 1,000,000 and 300,000 pounds, respec-Swely, while Tennessee alone gained alremost 225,000 pounds. In fact, the intry, while more and more supplying The north and the east, is steadily being carried south.

GATES OF THE CAUCASUS.

The Dark and Awful Mountain Defile That Separates Europe

Eight miles from Vladikavkaz is the posting station of Balta; 11 miles far-Ther is Lars, and five miles farther is the world-famous Gorge of Dariel, the "Cameasus Gates" of Pliny, the dark and awful defile between Europe and Asia. Gradually as we drive on the Mills rise and close in on us till at Breath they fall almost sheer to the sedge of the rushing Terek and the narsrow road, leaving only just room for these at the bottom of a rock cleft, MESCO feet deep. The air strikes chill as a wault; not a ray of sunshine enters; the driver stoops low and lashes his horses: instinctively we lapse into si-Bence, says Scribner's Magazine.

The geologist calls this gorge a "sault," for it is not a pass over the mountain chain, but a rent clear across To the imaginative traveler, however, it is a fit scene for the most wonderful highway in history. Seventy years ago it was a perilous road, for amalanches, or the sudden outbursts of pent-up glacial streams, swept it From end to end, but the Russians have ment \$20,000,000 upon it and made it m/c.

In 1877 nearly all their troops and stores for carrying the war into Turhey and Asia came by this road, and it will be used again for the same purpose, mithough to a much less degree, for there is now direct railway connection from Moscow to Baku, at one end of the "Trans-Caucasian railway, and theremore to Kars itself via Tiffis, and equally to Kars from Batum, at the other end. so which fortified port steamers would Buring troops and supplies from Odessa. and Novorossisk in the Black sea.

The gorges of the Yang-tse may be impressive—I have not seen them hat there is nothing in Europe which produces so profound an effect of dread mpon the mind as this silent, gloomy, medd abyem of Dariel. You do not wonder that any people holding it could Bur the way of the rest of the worldthe only ground for surprise is that before the present road was constructed maybody ever got through it at all. It even said: "Thus far and no farther." no Rome hersif and marked the limit of her dominion.

Same Ring. Tess-Jack proposed last night, and

I accepted him. Jess-Did you, dear? By the way, don't attempt to cut glass with that aliamond, as I did, or you'll make anwher nick in the stone .- Philadelphia

gago Daily News.

Paradosical. Mair-Dresser-Would you like your Bair a shade darker? Miss Oldham - No; make it a few

.mbades lighter, but keep it dark.-Chi-

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

Interesting Information About the Composition of the Ground on Which We Stand.

There is little wonder that the aspiring young newspaper man, whose first assignment carried him to the geological survey, felt like seeking some other profession after he had run against a genuine scientific treatise on matters geologic. Perhaps many an older man in the service would have been staggered to learn that "until the presence of the Algonkian rocks was determined the writer entertained the working hypothesis that a large laccolith of porphyry might have been introduced at a horizon near the base of the Paleozoic formations, but the appearance of the pre-Paleozoic rocks in the heart of the mountains, with on evidence of the hypothecated laccolith, renders it improbable that the uplift canbe primarily connected with porphyry intrusion." However, it was gratifying to know, relates the Washington Post, that "all the sheet rocks and many dikes are included petrographically under a single name, monzonite-porphyry, expressing the composition, in which the alkali feldspar, orthoclase, and the sodaline feldspar, plagioclase, are estimated to play approximately equal roles. The further composition of the rock is expressed by saying that it is a quartz-bearing hornblendic monzonite-porphyry."

Many a man would perhaps sleep sounder at night if he were only aware that "the hornblendic monzoniteporphyry intrusions and the monsonite stock are by far the most important of the igneous masses in the Rico mountains. The rock is in composition a monzonite-porphyry in which orthoclase assumes a prominent position in large phenocrysts, while plagioclase occurs in part in the groundmass. The rock is more closely related to the stock monzonite in composition than to the earlier hornblendic monzonite-porphyry."

Imagine the thrill that ran down his spine when he learned that "contact metamorphism of the calcerous strata adjacent to the monzonite stock is very pronounced at nearly all places where the former rocks are exposed in

the vicinity of the intrusive." But after all he derived the most satisfaction from learning, much to his surprise, that "if the quiescent neve was ever permanently frozen in the nivated areas, many of the 'bergschrunds' must have been situated well above the spheroid of perpetual frost."

WHAT MODERN SAILORS FEAR.

Not High Winds Nor Wild Seas So Much as an Explosion in the Botter Hold.

"Boiler explosions are the terror of the seafaring man," said an old-time deep water captain, to a New Orleans Times Journal reporter. "Such . thing is bad enough on dry land, but imagine a catastrophe of that kind at sea! In ninty-mine cases out of a hundred it means the absolute wiping out of the craft itself and every soul on

"The average landsman would be greatly shocked in looking over the maritime records to see how many vessels disappear each year and leave absolutely no clew to their fate. They run well to the hundred mark, and such a mystery is not to be explained away by storms. A Chinese typhoon may swoop down like lightning out of a clear sky and tear a ship to pieces, but some floating wreckage is sure to tell the tale. A boiler explosion, on the contrary, will blow a hole as big as a railroad tunnel right through the center of the hull, and the stricken vessel simply goes down like a shot. There is no time to unfasten a boat from the davits or

"In the opinion of seamen that is the story of at least 90 per cent. of the ships that leave port and are never heard of again. Luckily the modern system of marine boiler inspection is extremely strict and thorough, but it is impossible to absolutely prevent carelessness and fraud, and often, no doubt, the fault lies with the engineer.

cut loose a spar.

There is an old story of a drunken Scotchman who mistook the thermomcter for the steam gauge and 'cussed out' the stokers because he couldn't get the pressure above 80. That yarn will hardly hold water, but I've seen cases almost as bad. I am glad to say, however, that during the past ten years there has been a steady diminution of the number of vessels which 'mysteriously disappear.' That is due, beyond all question, to the increased stringency of boiler inspection and the greater strictness of examinations before a license is issued to engineers. Nevertheless there is still considerable room for improvement in both branches."

Will Explore Venezuela. An exploration mission, bound for Venezuela, with the avowed purpose of exploring districts of the great forests of the lower Orinoco, has sailed from Bordeaux-Paulliac. The commission is composed of Dr. Lucien Morisse, its head, and his wife, as well as 12 others, whose special studies of profession eminently fit them to accomplish the end in view. Dr. Morisse is already known for the successful fulfilling of former missions to the same region. An avant-garde of the mission left in September last with a complete outfit for exploration and. scientific ends .-- N. Y. Sun.

Besten Suct Pudding. One cupful suet, chopped fine; one cupful molasses, two of sweet milk, one-half cupful of sugar, three cupfuls flour, and one each of raisins and chopped dates; add nutmeg, cloves and cinnamon to suit; one teaspoonful soda, and one of salt. Steam four hours, and dry in the oven. This will keep for months, and may be reheated at any time. Serve hot, with soursauce.-Ladies' World, New York.

NOT GOOD FARMERS.

Pew Immigrants to America Capable of Doing the Work.

Some Interesting Facts Regarding the Distribution and Employment of the Incoming Thousands.

Between the years 1830 and 1890 10,000,000 of the 13,000,000 immigrants who came into the United States were natives of Great Britain or of Germany. and the number of Scandinavians was nearly 1,000,000. The great mapority of these newcomers, especially those from Germany, Norway and Sweden, were farmers whose destination was the west. The term the west, as understood by immigrants, meant at one time the western countries of New York and Pennsylvania, later the states of what is now called the middle west, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; then the trans-Mississippi states of Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas and, finally, the northwestern states, to which, prior to 1895, most of the new immigrants went.

In the last few years, notwithstanding the prosperous condition of American manufactures, the large harvests and liberal prices for cereals and live stocks, there has been a marked falling off in the immigration of farmers to the United States and a decided increase in the number of immigrants seeking homes in the large cities and manufacturing towns. The official figures of the calendar year of 1900 have not yet made their appearance, but the total number of immigrants will not be far from 475,000, and of this number more than 100,000 were from Austria-Hungary, another 100,-000 from Italy and another 100,000 from Russia and the Polish provinces of Germany, while Great Britain furnished less than 50,000, of which number 40,000 were from Ireland. These new immigrants seek homes and employment in the large cities, says the New York Sun.

The fertility and productiveness of American farms are as great as and in some cases greater than they were many years ago. The means of transportation have been vastly improved and the market of demand is decidedly larger than it ever was before. But the conditions for the purchase of land are no longer so favorable. The most eligible government lands for free homesteads have been disposed of. The railroad grants which included alternate parcels along the line of the roads have been sold and in most cases occupied. No state, except in the southwest, where the climatic conditions are not generally such as to attract European farmers, is under the necessity of offering inducements to immigrants, and the latter, no longer recruited from the farming class on the European continent and in Ireland, come chiefly from large European cities in which the population has become congested. or in which the rate of pay to mechanics has been forced down by competition or the use of new mechanical ap-

There is a constant and increasing demand for mill hands and artisans throughout the United States, and it' is to some extent supplied by new immigration. The three countries which now furnish the largest share of immigration, Austria, Russia and Italy, have comparatively little in common with the United States in the way of language, customs, historical tradition or the forms of government. There are no longer in Russia or Austria persecutions which would explain a wholesale exodus of the inhabitants of various districts, as was the case 10 and 15 years ago. The economic condition of Italy is rather better now than it was at the time when Italian immigration to the United States began to be large, and the increase of the immigration from these countries can, therefore, be explained only upon the ground that the demand for such labor as their immigrants have to offer is growing in the United States. The falling off of German immigration is explained by the fact that Germany is ceasing to be an agricultural and is becoming a manufacturing country. The total immigration to the United States last year was larger than in any previous year since

Disproportionate.

A western judge who, although he is wise, does not mind being witty, was trying a case recently, when he was disturbed by a young man who kept moving about in the rear of the court-room, lifting chairs and looking

"Young man," the judge said, at length, "you are making a great deal of noise.

"Your honor." replied the young man, "I have lost my overcoat and I am trying to find it."

"Well," said the venerable jurist, "people often lose whole suits in here without making all that disturbance." -Short Stories.

Point of View. They were standing on a crowded

street. "What a hard time men have running around trying to make money!"

said the pessimist. "Yes; but look what a good time women have running around trying to spend it," replied the optimist .- Chicago Daily News.

Prepared for the Worst. Wife-Oh, Harry, I didn't expect you home to lund. Husband-Well, aren't you glad to

see me? "Oh, yes; but I have nothing but sausage."

"Well, being hungry, I'm prepared for the wurst."-Philadelphia Record. SLAVES IN SULU ISLANDS.

A Kansan Writes That Women Are Sold at Bargain Counter Rates in the Markets.

"The other day," writes Henry Hopkins from one of the Sulu islands, in the Beloit (Kan.) Gazette. "I was offered two slaves for \$25 in gold. They belonged to a woman who claims to be a Christian. They were a boy and a girl, ranging from 12 to 16. The boy had on a shirt which reached to his waist. The girl's only garment was a strip of cotton wrapped about her waist. She stood up beside me and just reached to my shoulder. The woman who owned her thought I wanted to buy her and said: 'Mucho beveno,' or 'very good,' and told me the girl was worth at least \$10, and seemed surprised that I did not jump at the bargain. I talked to the slaves a few words in Spanish, but could get no evidence of their being misused. Had I bought them they would have been mine to do with as I saw fit.

"Slavery is common in Mindanae and the Sulu archipelago. The Chinese merchants usually own one or more women whom they bought They do not marry them as wives. The chief slave owners are the Moros They have the right to slaves by their religion. According to Moro law, a father has a right to sell his children; he can sell his wife and, if he gets into debt, he can sell himself to pay it. I have seen girls sold for one sack of rice, 100 pounds. I have known of soldiers buying girls and giving them their liberty. Not long since a female slave connected with the sultan's household fell in love with one of his warriors. She was neither wife nor concubine, but servant, and the warrior asked his majesty that she be given as his wife. The sultan refused and the two ran away and got married. They were brought back and the sultan said the man must die. The girl threw herself at the feet of the sultan and begged that she be allowed to die with her lover. The sultan consented and the same

campilan sliced off two heads. "According to the Koran, every Mohammedan has the right to as many as four wives. He also has the right to as many concubines and female slaves as he wishes to take, and as a result is only limited by his means. Datto Utto is said to have 60 women in his harem. The cultan of Sulu has 13. All that a Mohammedan has to do to get rid of his wife is to say 'I divorce you' three times and the woman is sent to her parents. These Mohammedans differ in many wave from the Mohammedans of the Mediterranean. They are not so exclusive as to their women, who do not hide their faces from the men. 'They go out upon the street unveiled and in their rude huts there are no women's quarters. But that man who touches a woman outside his family is subject to a fine of \$9 and if the woman so touched be married the fine is \$105. The woman who is insulted must complain at once, for if she allows the matter to rest over night the Moro law provides that she must pay half the fine. The husband also has the right to whip his wife. I have tried to find what the marriage customs of the Moros are. I find that the marriageable age ranges from 12 to 16 years and that a girl is a very old maid at 20."

INDIAN TERRITORY DOG RAIDS

Expert Lariat Throwers Rope the Ours as Easily as Cowboys Do Cattle.

The dog catcher of a town in the Indian territory can give a Chicago dog catcher cards and spades and then beat him as a capturer of capine animals. An expert cowboy hunts dogs as he does cattle. He ropes them the same way. Clad in a pair of buckskin trouaers, and wearing a big sombrero, with rope in hand or on the saddle horn, and a six-shooter in his belt, he starts down the street on his broncho looking for dogs. As he spies one which has no legal right to roam at large he sticks the spurs to his pony, grabs his rope and begins operations. He usually ropes the dog around the neck, draws him to the pony's side and shoots him. He then stuffs the carcass into a sack attached to the saddle and gallops off after more "game."

If a stranger is watching the performance the dog catcher does some fancy roping. He will rope the dog around the front foot or hind foot, or around the body between the feet. He hardly ever misses his mark.

Dog catching in the Indian country is a more ticklish business than it is in the cities in the states. The catcher not only has to dodge flatirons, mop sticks and brooms thrown by irate women (for a wild-looking cowboy with a six-shooter has no terror to an Indian territory woman), but he has In-

dians to deal with. An Indian thinks almost as much of his dog as he does of his kids, and if the dog catcher by mistake kills it there is trouble. Dogs belonging to Indians are exempt from taxation. But the Indians must brand them. The dogs of non-citizens are the ones discriminated against. If their masters fail to pay tax on them then they must pay the penalty of neath. In order to evade the tax occasionally a non-citizen forges a brand and marks his dog as if it belonged to an Indian. In order to prevent frauds of this character the dog catcher must be an expert on dog brands.

Both Can Bore.

A sharp man is not necessarily an entertaining one. An augur may be sharp, but that doesn't interfere with its boring capacity.-Indianapolis

Some People Easily Amused: Anybody can makes jokes good enough for some people.-Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

NEW FORM OF COURAGE.

"The Joy of Battle" Superseded in Modern Warfare by Dogged Endurance.

While reading the very spirited account of his service in South Africa sent to Blackwood by Ernest Dawson, a thought occurred to the writer which is not altogether pleasant, says the London Spectator. Not only are the conditions of warfare changed from those which prevailed of old, but so also the qualities which go to make the valuable soldier. For more than 2,000 vearstheman who would make the best soldier, the most formidable knight, the fighter who best inspired his comrades, was the one who felt most keenly the "flerce joy of battle," whose blood stirred when the actual fight began and who as it progressed was carried more and more out of himself.

Now a different courage seems to be required. All heat of the blood is gone. There is no prospect of a hand-to-hand contest. The bullets come from invisible foes, and if the return bullet is effective the soldier does not see the man he kills. Engagements last longer, there is more waiting, and you can hardly feel the desire of vengeance against the hill, or the ravine, or the machine which is pumping bullets at you. The battle. says Mr. Dawson, "leaves you cold," and the joy of battle which comes from feeling your enemy so close, which was, in fact, like the joy of an old-fashioned football scrimmage, is nonexistent. The average man needs in such a struggle rather an immovable calm, a tireless patience, an imperative sense of duty, than the kind of courage which formerly hurled the soldier forward and made it so difficult, as we read in all military histories, for the officers commanding reserves to restrain their

That is a curious change when regarded from the historian's point of view, and sets one speculating to whose advantage in battle it will ultimately accrue. As among Europeans, it should give victory either to the Teuton or the Slav. The former has patience and the capacity to endure, while the latter has submissiveness to authority as well as endurance. Teutons and Russians will lie hours under fire, never stirring till the moment arrives, while the latter will die wholesale, as is told of the battles of Zorndorn, rather than retreat before a superior has given the command. The southerner, even when he is a Frenchman, cannot bear the waiting, but must charge or fly. He is as brave as his rival, but he requires action, needs the joy of battle, the flerce excitement of moving on his enemy, before his courage becomes formidable and effective. Dr. Morrison noticed this of the Italians during the siege of the legations in Peking. They were as good as other troops while there was active work on hand, but they could not be equally trusted to guard positions. They first became impatient, then panicky, then uncontrollable.

That is satisfactory, in a way, for Germans, Americans and Englishmen, but there are other people besides them in the world, and we are not sure, if we extend our survey, that it is altogether so inspiriting. Does not Mr. Dawson's account suggest that the less timid among the Asiatics may some day make very good fighters indeed? Officers who know them say that the Afridis have a "devilish patience" when they are sniping, and we imagine (hinamen waiting calmly for hours under the blazing sun or swishing rain for their chance of effective "work." They do not feel the joy of battle in the old sense, and they will not stand up to the bayonet; but the joy is not excited by modern conditions, and the chance of using the bayonet comes but seldom. Grant the Chinamen ability to shoot-and there are plenty of sharpshooters among them-plenty of cartridges, and his present numbers, and the task of forcing a defile in Shen-Se would be about as formidable a one as a soldier can imagine. In the Asiatic, as in the Russian, obedience under certain conditions will replace the sense of duty, and his fear of death has very curious and well-defined limits. He will run from the bayonet, but not from death, and the bullet flung from an invisible enemy a mile off is only death. The European, the youth of the world, whose blood takes fire while his muscles grow tense in danger, seems to us. if Mr. Dawson's account is true, to lose something of his hereditary advantage in modern conditions. It is the batting which gains, not the bowling, even in morale, and in the contest between Europe and Asia, which may be the preoccupation of the next two centuries, it is essential that the bowler should win.

Curious Picture Frames. In many churches of Provence and Italy, especially those near the sea, exvoto paintings placed on the walls in accordance with vows made by pilgrims in moments of danger are often remarkable for their frames. Among the curiosities may be enumerated laths formed of splinters from ships that have been wrecked, also frames made of pieces of heavy cables, occasionally painted bright hues, but sometimes left in their primitive gray color, splashed with tar. Nailed to the latha surrounding, a painting representing sailors fighting with fierce savages may be seen African or Polynesian spears and darts, or swords made of hardwood, evidently mementos of terrifice struggles. Sailors or landsmenwho have made vows during times of peril at sea, and who have no troubles to display, will surround their paintings with broad bands of wood heavily incrusted with shells and seaweed, not infrequently of rare and extremely beautiful kinds. - London People's Friend.

How to Learn Fortitude. The cheapest way to learn fortitude in to watch others suffer; their heart tears harden our cheeks.-N. Y. HerCOUNTRY LAWYERS.

The Late Senator Davis' Appreciation of Their Learning and Ability.

"Great lawyers do not come from such places as Hominy Hill," was the remark made by a politician in March. 1886, immediately after the nomination of Senator Garland for attorness general. "Great lawyers are to be found only in Boston, New York, Phile adelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and other cities of considerable size and extenmive business interests. They do not come from places like Hominy Hill, which would never be heard of but for the elevation of some obscure man s position in either house of congress," continued the partisan critic. relates the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

This statement was repeated to Senator Davis, of Minnesota, only a few days before the beginning of his fatal. illness, and the great lawyer-states-

"That is untrue, and it is the language of nonsense. In the first place, Senator Garland is one of the ablest constitutional lawyers that this country has produced in a generation. He was one of the greatest of the southern senators, and he was a great attorney general, too. I have no patience with any such sneers as that as the country lawyer. As a mere matter of fact, many a city lawyer who is supposed by his clients, and by the general public as well as by himself, to be a great lawyer, has gone into the country districts of his state to try a case, where he would have a country lawyer pitted against him. and has learned, sometimes to his disgust, as well as to his surprise, that the country lawyer was a great deal more than a maten for him upon every point.

"I have had some experience of that sort, as a city lawyer, going out to meet with country lawyers, and I know what I am talking about when I say that some of the ablest legal lights of this country have come from obscure country towns. Of course it is true that in smaller towns, where business is less favorable, the lawyers do not receive large fees, because they are not retained in great cases, involving large amounts of money, but they are none the less studious and interested in their own advancement. Very often it happens that a lawyer who does not make more than \$1,000 or \$2,000 per sanum is busily engaged. all the time in the study of law, and becomes so thoroughly informed upon every branch of law, so thoroughly versed in his reading of great precedents, that he is much better equipped for the management of important cases than a city lawyer who is always engaged in practice, and does not have a sufficient amount of time to devote to reading.

"For example, one of the greatest jurists the present generation has produced was the late Associate Justice Samuel F. Miller, who, when he was appointed to his position upon the supreme court by President Lincols, in 1862, was a practicing attorney in the little town of Keokuk, Ia., at the foot of the Des Moines rapids of the Mississippi river. That is by no means an important city, and was as emall a town then as it is now.

"During his first administration President Cleveland appointed Bartlett Tripp to be chief justice of the supreme court of the territory of Dakota. I know Mr. Tripp intimately. and I am related to him and I have no hesitancy in saying that he is one of the ablest lawyers in this country. He was splendidly educated in New England, and he spent number of years in Yankton, S. D., and became very learned in law.

"Moreover, I can tell you as a matter of fact, some of the greatest lawvers that have been produced by the eastern states have come from country towns. Pennsylvania and New York have had in their country towns a great many lawyers of superior ability who would very readily and very easily outclass some of the more pretentious lawyers of the cities of New York and Philadelphia. The same may be said of Massachusetts. Connecticut and other New England states. I can tell you at random, and from memory, the names of some of these great country lawyers, and you will readily recognize their names and realize the truth of the statement which I have made. I want to repeat, however, that it makes me indignant to hear such a reflection as that which you have quoted upon. the name of Attorney General Garland. He is a splendid lawyer, and in every sense a superior man.

"One of the greatest country lawyers I ever knew was a man named Carpenter, who practiced many years. ago in the little town of Beloit. Wis. He afterward became famous as a. lawyer and statesman, but he laid the foundation for his greatness and eminence while he was an obscure: practitioner in an obscure town. Very soon after he moved to Milwaukee and was retained in some important cases, the name of Mart Carpenter became well known throughout the entire state of Wisconsin. In a very few years he was elected to the United States senate, and immediately secured a national reputation as a lawver and statesman. But, as I said before, the foundation of all his greatness was laid when he was a country lawyer."

Privation.

Mrs. Newriche-I believe our nextdoor neighbors, on the right, are as peor as church mice, Hiram. Mr. Newriche-What makes you

think so? "Why, they can't afford one of them . mechanical piano players. The daughter is taking lessons by hand!"-Puck. Success.

Success would be very sweet if it ever stayed long enough for un to tearn the taste.-N. Y. Herald.

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