



ZACHARY TAYLOR.

Subject to the decision of a National Convention.

We have received from the Hon. P. W. Tompkins various Congressional documents and speeches, for which we return our thanks.

Also, from the N. Y. Tribune office, No. 5, of Ewbank's Hydraulics. The present number increases the high estimation we have already expressed for this valuable work.

Also, No. 3, of the Young People's Mirror, from the publisher, E. Walker, New York city. This is not merely a "Mirror" for youth, but a perfect Casket for the family. Our only surprise is that so much that is valuable in information and beautiful in illustration, can be presented to the public at the low price of 50 cents per annum.

We take peculiar pleasure in noticing, and in recommending to our whig friends in North Mississippi, the proposed publication of the Louisville Journal Extra.—Mr. Prentice, with his usual enterprise, and as a proof of his devotion to the great cause, will publish this extra from the 8th of June until the close of the Presidential campaign, at the low price of 50 cents a copy. It will contain all the political matter of his Weekly Journal, and will, we doubt not, prove a most efficient instrument of good in the South and Southwest.

A new claimant on the public favor has appeared in "THE CRESCENT," a daily paper published in the city of New Orleans, under the auspices of Messrs. Hays & McClure, formerly of the Delta office. Their well known ability, and the large means at their command, will combine to render their Journal a deserved favorite. The typography of the new sheet is beautiful. We are pleased to find it in the list of our exchanges.

Capt. Morgan, of the Steamer Wave, Mr. Parker of the Kinney and Mr. Elgin of the W. W. Fry, will accept our thanks for late Mobile and New Orleans advices.

We have been requested to state that the Rev. Mr. Fontaine (of the Episcopal Church) will hold service and preach, as usual, morning and afternoon, on Sunday the 19th inst. Subject, The Order of Confirmation.

Also, that Elder J. A. Butler, will preach at the Court House, morning, evening and night, on the same day.

We would respectfully ask of the clergymen officiating in this town, to inform us on Wednesday of every week, of their appointments for the ensuing Sunday, as also, the anticipated subject of their discourses. We will take pleasure in announcing them weekly.

Our desire to finish the publication of Mr. Houston's interesting and eloquent speech in the present number, and the employment of two of our columns by the resolves of our Whig friends in Monroe and Chickasaw, and a large amount of advertisements have excluded several interesting articles gleaned from other sources, besides limiting greatly the usual amount of editorial matter. Those of our friends who have been readers of the Independent for the last few weeks, will hardly need an assurance, that we are not accustomed to spare the pen, and will grant an excuse for the present number, if it appears to be deficient in original articles. We trust to be able in a few days to spread before the reading and advertising public, additional and we hope well grounded inducements for a still larger share of patronage and support.

We published some time since a paragraph from one of our exchanges, stating that it had been decided by the department at Washington, that the volunteers in the Florida war were entitled to bounty land under the late Acts of Congress. We were at the time doubtful as to the correctness of the information, and addressed a note to one of our representatives, soliciting an inquiry into the subject. We have not yet received a reply, but from a letter upon the subject addressed by the Commissioner of Pensions to the Hon. H. Cobb, M. C. from Georgia, we ascertain that the statement made was erroneous. The Commissioner of Pensions says:

"I have the honor to inform you that the decision to which your correspondent refers, does not admit the claims to bounty lands of soldiers who served in the Florida war; but is confined to those called out under the act of May 13, 1846, and served in such a manner as is provided for by the act of Feb. 11th, 1847."

The Virginia State Whig Convention has by a very decided vote, nominated General Taylor for the Presidency.

We return our thanks for the kind favors of our gifted Mobile correspondent. In every department of life, in all its changeable phases, the kind remembrances of friendly feeling are ever grateful; but more especially when engaged in the rugged field of political warfare, do they tend to soften the asperities, and give interest to the dull cares of life. When those remembrances spring, unsolicited (but on that account prized the more highly) from the breast of woman, cold and insensible must be the heart that would not respond by more zealous endeavors to deserve the gift.

"There's naught but care on ev'ry man's, In every hour that passes, O! What signifies the life of man, An' 'twere na for the lassies, O!" We shall look anxiously for a continuation of our correspondent's favors.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

A new division of the Sons of Temperance was organized in this town on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst, by Giles M. Hillyer Deputy G. W. P. Its style and number will be "McGinty Division, No. 12." It commences under the most favorable auspices; and we trust will prove a pure and beautiful stream from that fountain, whose "sweet waters" are flowing so rapidly and so beneficently over the land.

Its present officers are as follows: J. H. Tatum, W. P. John M. Anderson, W. A. Andrew Marschalk, R. S. Clem C. Moore, A. R. S. Jesse L. Walton, F. S. Joseph A. Trimble, T. Green W. Trimble, C. W. R. Julian, A. C. Rev. E. Fontaine, Chaplain. William J. Copp, P. W. P.

There are several new divisions in this neighborhood in readiness for active operation. The D. G. W. P. regrets that his present lack of the necessary books and documents obliges him to defer for a few days their organization. As soon as received, he will lose no time in undertaking that portion of his duties.

There is a project on foot, we learn, to erect Long Island, New York, into a new State. Meetings have been held for the purpose of considering the expediency of an application to the proper authorities for that purpose.

The adjourned Clay Meeting was held in this town on Thursday the 9th inst.—The report of the Committee with the resolutions adopted will be found below.

Dr. John L. Tindall, Sr., in presenting the report accompanied it with some brief remarks, which we here give. Their patriotic spirit and conciliatory tone towards brethren of the same political faith, will commend them to every whig. Most cheerfully do we unite with him in urging the whig party "to unite, harmonize and make common cause in wresting the Government from the hands of ignorance, corruption and wickedness."

Dr. Tindall remarked as follows:

The Committee had endeavored to discharge the duty entrusted to them candidly and impartially. They had not travelled out of their road to find fault with any other candidate. They had purposely refrained from any expressions of eulogy upon Mr. Clay excepting those which his services and merits justly entitle him to receive from a whole nation; although the speaking lineaments of that well remembered face were continually before the mind of the committee, and the sounds of that musical voice from which scholars and statesmen had derived so much knowledge and delight, were reverberating in their ears; they had still avoided all eulogy not justified by history; they had simply stated facts and referred to characteristics conceded even by his enemies and gratefully remembered by every unprejudiced heart. As a statesman, legislator, negotiator, patriot and philanthropist, he is second to no man of the present generation. In every great national or political crisis, which has occurred in this country, for the last thirty-five years, the anxieties and hopes of the nation, have been turned to Mr. Clay, for remedy or relief, and they have never been disappointed. His sagacious wisdom has in every instance proven equal to all emergencies. Indeed the future historian, who may undertake to write a history of this Republic, from 1810 to 1846, must for that time write the history of Mr. Clay, because he has spoken history, acted history and lived history during that period. In his public life, he has lived and acted the patriot, in a sense of the term, as broad as this nation. His views of public policy have at all times, and under all circumstances embraced the whole of this Union. He has never acted the party hack, nor played the sectional demagogue. The turns of political fortune, the ebb and flow of popular feeling, the hidden mechanism by which parties are moved, all of these things are subjects of his familiar acquaintance, yet he has never pandered to them, because in his own emphatic language, he had "rather be right, than be President."

The intellectual and moral qualities which are most important in a President, he possesses in a very high degree. He is singularly mild, sagacious, and impartial in his judgments of men, and of parties. I am aware that some of our whig friends have expressed a preference for the brave and patriotic Gen. Taylor for President. This circumstance, however, so far as I know the sentiments of the friends of Mr. Clay, will produce no intractable schism in our household. Let us unite and harmonize, under the decision of a National Convention, and make common cause, in wresting the Government, from the hands of ignorance, corruption and wickedness.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting of the friends of Henry Clay held in this place on the 25th of last month, with instructions to draft a suitable preamble and resolutions for the consideration of this meeting, expressive of the views and desires of the friends of that distinguished citizen, have had the subject under consideration, and have instructed me to make the following report. Your committee are of opinion that the time has arrived when every man, whether whig or democrat, who loves his country, who venerates the constitution, and who has the welfare and the prosperity of the people at heart, should step boldly forward and contribute his mite in all constitutional ways in arresting the folly and the corruption, in the present administration of the Executive department of the general Government.

This great and important reformation can only be accomplished through the ballot box at the approaching Presidential election. This event is rapidly approaching—the notes of preparation are now being sounded from different points in the Union, and it is right and proper that free and candid expressions should be given by every man, of his partialities or his prejudices in reference to the distinguished citizens, whose names have been spoken of as candidates for the highest and most important office, which the collected wisdom of this, or any other country, has ever established. It is a lamentable fact that the people have, more than once, been treated by the candidates for this high office and their friends, with fair promises of an approaching administration solely intent on promoting the public welfare, and on a strict observance of the constitution, but these promises are a cheap commodity, easily thrown in any quantity on the political market, where their value is liable to be overrated, if they are estimated without reference to the character of him, in whose behalf they are made.

Among those who have been spoken of in connection with the office of President of the United States, stands the name of Henry Clay in bold and conspicuous relief, as a wise and virtuous man, a profound statesman, and a firm friend to the constitution and the right of man. A citizen whose fame, belongs in an especial manner to his countrymen, because for their sake he has neglected the care of his own fame. In his walk through life, there has been no ostentatiousness, no pushing, no showing, none of the little acts which bring forward little men. The largest portion of his useful life has been devoted to the service of his country. While he has discharged many high and important public trusts, with honor to himself and benefit to his country, he has constantly manifested a noble and manly independence, exhibiting the meritorious virtues of candor and honesty, with a fearless expression of his opinions, in relation to all matters of public policy. For these ennobling qualities he has been assailed by deceitful and vicious men, with slander and falsehoods, and while his most patriotic actions have been perverted by misrepresentation, he has borne all with that calm dignity, becoming a gentleman and a christian. He has outlived his worst slanderers, and their malignant falsehoods, and is yet spared to us to aid, at least by his advice and council, in extricating the nation from the deplorable effects of the ignorance and folly of the present administration. We would therefore, with due deference for the opinions of others; recommend Henry Clay to the people of the United States as a fit and proper person for President. Because his capacity as a Statesman is known, his devotion to constitutional and rational liberty is known—his opinions upon all great national questions are well known. His opinions are formed from a rational exercise of a sound and discriminating mind, and will answer for all latitudes, from Maine to Texas; they need no remodeling to fit them for the political market, in any particular State. They are based upon the constitution, and are constructed "in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

The great whig victories which have been gained in elections for the last year or two, have been won upon principles. We are now strong in our position of opposition to the unconstitutional origin of the war, into which the country has been plunged by our present Chief Magistrate. The dreams of happy life and griefs, have been telling, and will tell, in awful retribution at the next election. We know not what dark misfortunes may overtake the nation before settling these startling difficulties.

Let the Whigs then go into consultation together. If they will do so, those bonds of sympathy which have united them heretofore, with adamant power, will cause them to rally upon the proper man for the crisis. They will look to a star of hope, and will not look in vain.

Therefore be it resolved, That this meeting do approve the plan recommended by their whig friends in Congress, of holding a National Convention; for the nomination of President and Vice President of the United States.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Whigs of Mississippi to hold a State Convention for the purpose of nominating delegates to represent them in the National Convention.

Resolved, That we will support with our votes, the nominees of the National Convention, if there is a fair representation from the whole union in such convention;—Provided that the political principles of the nominee of said convention are known to be sound whig principles.

MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF N. YORK.

Perhaps no institution for the pecuniary benefit of mankind has ever won favor so rapidly with the public, as that of life insurance. Wherever its beneficent aims have become known, they have been duly appreciated, and the advantages presented by the system been availed of, to the comfort and relief of many a widowed heart, and an orphan frame. The great ease with which every man can lay aside a trifling sum now and then, and the certainty that that small investment will, in the event of his death, produce a large increase to his family or friends, has given an unprecedented popularity to those institutions, whose object is so philanthropic and whose influence is so wide spread.

The Company, whose title heads this article, is a fair example of the successful operation of the system, when conducted with integrity, prudence and disinterested philanthropy. Under the management of gentlemen of the highest reputation, both for integrity and ability, its career has for the last five years been one of uninterrupted success—and as its prosperity is commensurate with, and inseparable from, the interest of its policy holders, it presents at once a source of congratulation to the thousands who are enjoying its benefits, and an inducement to the public at large to avail themselves of its provisions. This Company is on the mutual plan, where all the earnings, over and above the expenditure (and a reserved fund for reinsurance) are passed to the credit of the policies, once in every five years. This quinquennial division took place Feb. 1, 1848, and we hold the annual statement of the affairs of the Company as presented at that date. It has been in operation only since Feb. 1, 1843, during which time it will be seen that it has issued nearly forty seven hundred policies, and accumulated a net fund over and above all losses, expenses and debts, of nearly \$551,000. After reserving nearly \$200,000 for reinsurance, they have passed to the credit of every existing policy fifty-two per cent on the amount of all premiums paid in. The presentation of such a statement is at once a triumphant eulogy upon the ability of the direction, and the best commentary on the value of the institution.

How greatly is the happiness of the man of limited income increased during his life, by the reflection that when he is taken away and his head and hand have lost their power of providing for a dependent family, that the little sums he is from time to time investing, will be certain of producing a rich harvest for their future support! How many desponding homes are gladdened by the thought! How many an unquiet death bed deprived of one portion of its horrors, by the knowledge that penury and want will not visit the loved objects of his regard! To every professional man, to every one whose income proceeds from daily toil, the subject of life insurance is full of interest—while to that portion of the public who merely seek for an investment for a friend or relative, the annual statement of this Company, and the fact that after the reservation of a surplus fund of \$200,000, they still are able to make a dividend of 52 per cent in all monies paid on, present claims in its behalf certainly unsurpassed, if equalled.

This Company has a duly authorized agent in this town, who holds himself at all times ready to explain its plan and advantages, and through whom applications for insurance can be made.

ANNUAL STATEMENT. Amount received for premiums. 1st. year 37,293.90. 2nd do and renewals 81,990.34. 3rd do do do 145,197.97. 4th do do do 179,762.92. 5th do do do 298,163.72. From other sources 69,862.95.

Total receipts 812,253.80. Disbursements for five years. Losses by death 817,150.00. Expenses of Company 78,262.81. Amount paid for policies surrendered 1,872.62. " due agents and others 6,089.81.

Net profits 261,375.24. \$550,878.56. How disposed of, viz: Dividend of 52 per cent on amount of premiums paid on all existing policies 355,642.60. Fund reserved for reinsurance 192,235.96.

No. of policies issued 1st year 470. do do 2nd do 616. do do 3rd do 1047. do do 4th do 1087. do do 5th do 1486—4686. Deduct cancelled policies 1066. Existing policies 3620.

Prentice, of the Louisville Journal, is as full of fun and squibs as ever. Hear him. Let Democracy be united to a man. Louisville Democrat.

Our neighbor takes Democracy for an old woman and is exhorting her to get married. We are afraid that the old hag is so ugly that she can't find any one to take her for better or worse. She will have to live on in single cursedness. The editor of the Democrat should cease scowling at Mexico. Now that "Grim-visaged War" has smoothed his wrinkled front, our grim-visaged neighbor may as well as smooth his.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Abridged from the Lon. Jour. Arrival of the Britannia. 13 DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE. Advance in Cotton—Further decline in Breadstuffs.

The Steamer Britannia arrived in Boston March 4th, having left England on the 12th ultimo. The intelligence is important.

Monetary affairs manifest an improving tendency. The Archbishop of Canterbury, primate of England, is dead.

The Government of England has warned the Austrian Government that any further interference on their part with the Pope of Rome, and the affairs of Italy, will be considered as a declaration of war.

Ireland still continues in a distressing condition. A large party in that unhappy country are favorable to the immediate declaration of war against England.

Breadstuffs have steadily declined since the sailing of the Hibernia. The cause of the decline throughout the kingdom is owing to the large home supply. Operations have been wholly confined to demands for immediate consumption, and chiefly by retail trade, without the slightest disposition being manifested to enter upon anything approaching a prospective investment or speculation.

The resumption of the sliding scale duties commenced on the 1st inst., and their prospective effect upon the market for breadstuffs has already been influenced.

Since the advices per the last steamer, the market for cotton has manifested some improvement, especially in the lower grades.

The quotations will be found under our Commercial head.

FROM WASHINGTON.

We have information from Washington by telegraph to the 8th inst. There has been nothing of importance transacted in the Senate. Their attention is almost exclusively confined to the treaty. In the House, the bill making appropriations for the deficiencies in the revenue has been the main topic. It was ordered to a third reading on the 7th inst.

Great uncertainty still hangs about the fate of the Treaty negotiated by Mr. Trist. It would fill a column to give a mere summary of the reported views of Senators, upon its general purport, and on its details. By the Telegraphic reports of March 3, we confidently anticipated an immediate vote of approval. It still remained a subject of warm discussion on the 7th, and from the fact of this delay, and the surmises of correspondents, and the attributed out door sayings of Senators, a doubt has been cast over the action of the Senate. It requires a two thirds vote for approval, and as each a tie is voted upon separately, and a two thirds vote understood to be necessary thereon, it is evident that it is a subject of no little uncertainty, as well as difficulty.

There are various parts of it as it is given, particularly obnoxious to different portions of the chamber, besides the mere fact of its springing from the acts of an unauthorized agent. The line proposed for the boundary is objected to by both extremes of the Senate. The fact that in the cession of Upper California and Mexico, no provision has been made for ascertaining the popular sentiment of those States is said to have caused opposition on the part of Mr. Benton and others, on the ground of its being repugnant to the theory of our institutions, and to the uniform practice of our Government.

The acceptance of another article, providing for a defence of Mexico against Indian and Savage enemies and for recapturing from them prisoners, will involve us, it is feared, in a bloody and interminable war, in comparison with which our Seminole operations have been but trifling. The anticipation that our Mexican fellow citizens of California and New Mexico will not prove loving and faithful allies startles the minds of many. They look forward to the very short time that may elapse before those States may claim admission to the Union, with Almonte, Santa Anna or Canizozo as their Congressional Representatives—the oath of allegiance indeed on their lips, but the undying fury of hate in their bosoms. The protection the treaty gives to the land grants of Mexico is very objectionable, as pandering simply to stock jobbing interests, and as springing from the interference of British agents.

On the whole, the treaty is little liked by any, and yet may receive the sanction of a very large majority. By many it is deemed too bad; by others not bad enough; while there are not a few who would prefer sanctioning it, to any longer trusting the management of a foreign war to the rash, unpatriotic and incompetent hands of a selfish administration. We have little doubt, however, whether this particular treaty is ratified or not, that peace will very shortly ensue. Even if it is rejected, it will prove a basis on which definite action can be taken, and other plans built more deserving and more successful.

The many modifications which the Senate is likely to make in the treaty, may induce that body perhaps to the appointment of a new commission to Mexico, as bearers of the draft of an inchoate treaty, which this country would accept, and which Mexico would find it to her interest to ratify. This is reported to be the wish

of many Senators both whig and democratic. If this is the case, with what glory could even the present administration cover itself, if looking beyond the mere circle of party, they could be induced to confide this appointment to men, whose influence would be as unbounded with their respective political friends, as their diplomatic talents are unquestioned. A Van Buren, a Clay or a Calhoun could unite the country in sentiment as to a treaty concluded under their auspices, and with their sanction. But the President from his pinnacle of party greatness cannot look down to private worth and patriotism, unless picked up in the ranks of the faithful. Between Clay and Polk what a comparison! How does the dazzle of office, and the popularity of mere power fade before the glory of the true patriot heart, and the enthusiastic devotion awarded to the private citizen. Truly indeed may we say: "Pigmies are pigmies still, tho' perched on Alps, While pyramids are pyramids in vales!"

WHIG MEETING IN CHICKASAW.

A large and respectable meeting of the Whigs of Chickasaw convened at the Court House in Houston, on Monday evening, the 6th of March, for the purpose of acting on the resolutions of the central Whig meeting held at the city of Jackson on the 22nd of February last.

On motion, C. B. Baldwin, Esq., was called to the chair, and Thomas M. Blackwell appointed Secretary. Eloquent, fervid and animated addresses were made by Capt. Rogers, Messrs. Lindsay, Smith, Coopwood, Evans, Sullivan and Dowd, which were warmly and enthusiastically greeted by the assembly. After which, the meeting appointed a committee, consisting of W. N. Motheral, Thomas N. Alexander, C. B. Baldwin, Jno. T. Freeman and T. M. Blackwell to draft a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

The committee reported the following preamble and resolutions which were unanimously adopted. Whereas, The time is rapidly approaching when the great political parties will marshal their respective forces in battle array for the Presidential canvass of 1848; and whereas, we believe that on the success of the Whig party, in a great measure, depends the future safety of our Constitution, (the Palladium of our liberties,) and the repose, quiet and prosperity of our beloved country; and whereas, that success cannot be secured without concert of action and thorough organization throughout the Union; and although it is the opinion of this meeting that the system of conventions, when resorted to on every trivial occasion, results in a detestable and many-headed despotism, yet, in great emergencies, when it is necessary for a whole people to act in concert for some momentous and important purpose, we are compelled to resort to them, as submitting to a less evil to obtain a greater good.

Therefore Resolved, That in accordance with the suggestions of a central meeting of the friends of General Taylor; which convened at the city of Jackson on the 22nd ult., the Chairman of this meeting be empowered to appoint three delegates to meet similar delegates of our sister counties of this (2nd) Congressional district, at Greensboro on the first Monday in May next, for the purpose of appointing an elector, for said district, favorable to the election of General Taylor to the Presidency.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that in General Taylor, the Whigs of this county have the most unbounded confidence as a soldier, a statesman and a patriot, and that although he has not as yet, given his political opinions in detail, yet sufficient is known, and his whole life is a sure guarantee of the fact, that should he be elevated to the responsible station of Chief Magistrate of the Union, that he will conduct the ship of State on the pristine principles of our republican fathers, and clear the Constitution of the spurious film and false constructions which successive partisan Presidents have heaped upon it.

Resolved, That although violent partisans and political aspirants may sneer and creak at his nomination, yet the great body of the American people, disgusted as they are at the vapid strife of party and of party prescription, which have raged for the last fifteen years, will rally around the standard of that incorrupt and incorruptible patriot and hero who "never surrenders," with an enthusiasm never witnessed since the time when the Father of his country retired from public life.

Resolved, That although this meeting will pay due deference and respect to the decision of a National Convention, yet so far as Mississippi, and we believe the whole South is concerned, with General Taylor, we will be victorious—without him, success will be doubtful.

Resolved, That our delegates be instructed, and our sister counties be requested to co-operate with us in so doing, to vote for a delegate to the National Convention to represent this district, and that we do earnestly recommend the same course to each Congressional district in this State.

Resolved, That we do most cordially approve the selection of Col McClung and Gen. Miles as electors for the State at large, and would furthermore request them to attend the National Convention to cast the Senatorial vote of this State.

The following gentlemen were appointed delegates to attend the Greensboro Convention, viz: Gen. J. T. Griffin, Dr. Witherspoon and T. M. Blackwell. On motion, two, consisting of the Chairman and Warren Harrell, Esq., were added.

On motion of T. M. Blackwell, it was Resolved, That the publisher of the "Weekly Independent" at Aberdeen, the "Starkeville Whig," and the "Southern" at Jackson, be requested to publish. C. B. BALDWIN, Chairman. THOS. M. BLACKWELL, Secretary.

but as his credit was good, he raised sufficient for the purpose by borrowing of the banks. The next morning the manufacturer of the lock, according to request, called to ascertain the difficulty. He said he had no doubt he could unlock the safe, if the gentleman would tell him the safe, to which he locked it. "Boots" was the word, and to work he set to unlock it to "boots." Well, he tried, sanguine of success, but "boots" would not unlock the safe. He tried again, and again, and was no more successful. He tried an hour, two hours, and three hours, with no success. Finally, a happy thought struck him. He wiped the perspiration from his face, took a drink of water, examined the key again, and looking at the broker straight in the eye, said—Sir, allow me to ask you how you spell "boots." How do I spell "boots?" said the broker. "Why, I spell it right—how do you spell it?" "Oh, never mind," said the man of combination locks, "how I spell it; how do you spell it?" "B-u-t-s, to be sure," said the broker. "The devil you do," said the lock-man, "and if you spell boots but-s, I will unlock the safe but-s, and he did unlock it in the twinkling of an eye.

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