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The Republican leaders are considering the advisability of making a clean cut declaration for the gold standard in their next platform without any of the "international bimetalism" equivocation which marked their last platform. There have been many recent interviews in the press from Republican leaders along this line, and it is noticeable that the arrangement for international bimetalism is urged, not with the expectation or purpose of its ever materializing but simply to hold in line those Republicans still in the party who are in favor of silver. Indeed, the manner in which it is proposed by some of the well-known uncompromising gold standard Republicans to work the international bimetalism delusion again has the merit of frankness at any rate. For instance, the following is from an interview of Senator Thurston:

"Of course" he said, "the advocates of the single gold standard declaration will have the votes in the Convention to accomplish their purpose if they are disposed to force the issue. The eastern States have a large representation in the Convention, and we know that the colored delegates can be won over. At the same time, I do not see the necessity for such action. There are in the west a considerable number of Republicans who hold moderate silver views in 1896 and who still hold those views. Not only would it be unwise to alienate these Republicans, but there is no reason financially why the step should be taken. We are going along splendidly enough now."

Yes, we are moving along now splendidly enough under the gold standard, and why alienate from the party, those Republicans of the West who favor silver, but who voted with us in 1896 on account of the international bimetalism promise. This is a mighty easy thing to promise again, and besides it can do no harm, because the gold standard men are so weak in the majority."

And while leading Republicans are thus considering whether they should make any equivocal declaration on the money question, it is noticeable that leading Democrats are advising a straddle for the money plank of the Democratic platform. Senator Morgan, of Alabama, is one who is out in a long interview advising a compromise on the silver question. He is anxious to harmonize the gold and silver Democrats, and for this reason opposes the renomination of Mr. Bryan. Read the following which we clip from his interview, and then compare it with the clipping from Senator Thurston's interview quoted above:

"A large part of the party is opposed to free silver. Why not let the question drop as a Presidential issue? If the people want silver they can elect men to Congress who favor it and then make the question one of legislation. In this way the will of the people will be subserved."

The problem from one standpoint is, how to keep the silver man in the Republican party, and from the other, how to keep the gold men in the Democratic party, and both anxious for a compromise upon the question of 1896 in order to accomplish these respective purposes. We refer to these interviews, especially that of Senator Morgan and other Democrats along the same line, indicating a plan to sidetrack the vital issues of the last campaign and to scotch the movement toward a demand for other needed reforms suggested by the People's Party. But it remains to be seen whether these people will be fooled by straddlers and compromisers.

Traveling salesmen have in the past exerted no small influence in retarding the growth of People's Party principles in towns and cities. The nature of their work has given them an excellent opportunity for shaping to a great extent the opinions of merchants who are generally considered the leading citizens of the smaller towns and villages, and some of these salesmen of the larger corporation, even have instructions from their employers to talk up their interests politically as well as financially, as was proved in the case of a Baltimore firm to one of its Virginia drummers, when the firm's secret circulars of instruction to its drummers leaked out and was printed in the Congressional Record during the last extra session. But it seems that the evil influence of trusts, against which the People Party has always fought and for the up-building of which those drummers who have opposed People's Party principles, have indirectly lent a hand, is to fall with heavy weight upon the drummers themselves. With less competition there is need of fewer drummers, and the weeding out process has already begun in such earnest as to cause the traveling men serious alarm. In this connection we call attention to a letter which appears in another column written by Mr. Pierre Lorillard to the Baltimore Sun in which he defends trusts and says the drummers must look out for themselves. We are glad to see that the drum-

mers have begun to "look out for themselves" by now trying to undo what they have previously helped to do, and we hope they will not only join the People's Party in its crusade against trusts, but that they will also talk up the other principles of the party which are no less necessary for good government.

Governor Sayers, of Texas, it will be remembered, sometime ago suggested the plan of calling together in conference the Governors of the different States with their Attorney Generals, to discuss the trust question and consider ways and means of removing trusts. The conference was called for September 20th. at St. Louis. We subjoin a letter to Gov. Sayers from Gov. Lee, the Populist Governor of South Dakota, with the comment that if all the Governors were Populists something like effective action might be looked for from the conference. Says Gov. Lee:

"I believe the movement is an excellent one, for it will take the united effort of at least a majority of the States if they expect to succeed in counteracting the evil of the gigantic combinations that are being formed and are being constantly multiplied. It is our duty to try by every honorable means possible to subjugate these monopolies. If their absolute control cannot be accomplished by legislation, in my opinion the only remedy remaining is government ownership of transportation lines that are now being manipulated by the capitalists directly against the interest of the masses."

The Corporation Commission has made an increase in the tax value of railroad property in the State of only about one-third what it should have made if it had taxed the railroad property in the same proportion that other property is taxed; and is now posing for the approbation of the people, while the railroads are playing the martyr act to make it appear that they have been severely handled. Still they have saved themselves from a fair assessment by securing to the Commission the power to assess them.

If the Commission really wants to see justice done, let them reduce freight and passenger rates to what they should be, and they will have done their duty to the traveling and shipping public without having done injury or injustice to the railroads.

"It is noticeable that in nearly all reports of fighting in the Philippines our navy takes part. Are we to understand from this that they have got our battleships on wheels and are working them on land? It looks that way, for surely by this time our troops have been able to get away from the seashore.—Silver Creek Times.

The times overlooks the fact that this is the rainy season in the Philippines and that there is plenty of water to float the battleships over most any part of the island. We like the candor and honesty of Captain Frederick Watkins, late master of the steamship Paris which was recently stranded. Capt. Watkins does not seek to evade the responsibility or to put the blame for the accident upon any one else, but says that he alone is to be blamed, and we think considering his long and capable service at sea covering more than a quarter of a century, that the penalty of two years suspension was a little severe.

Under the plan of city ownership now operating in Detroit, Mich., the people of that city ride on the street cars at three cents a fare, a rate but little over half what it was under private ownership. This is a People's Party principle put into practice, and one from which the Detroit public will get material benefit. The statement is made that this plan is only tried by way of experiment, but we venture this prophecy, that if it is even changed it will not be by a vote of the people of Detroit.

Senator Morgan in a recent interview which was published to have some influence in directing and forming issues for the next campaign said in part: Let us return to the old principles of tariff reform. An anti-trust plank should also be used to strengthen platform. Senator Morgan would no doubt welcome the old tariff fight the "old love of the Democratic party"—but before entering upon it he should explain one little incident in his record of the Fifty fifth Congress. It will be remembered that when the Dingley tariff bill was up in the Senate, an amendment known as the Pettigrew anti-trust amendment was offered, which sought to deprive trusts of which according to the laws of our country are unlawful of this protection which the bill carried for industries not controlled by trusts and that Senator Morgan came to the rescue of the Republicans just in the nick of time by making a speech in which he declared he would vote against the amendment. And this as much or more than anything else defeated it.

If silver dollars are not redeemable in gold and the secretary of the United States treasury says they are not, will some Democrat tell us why fifty cents worth of silver can be worth one hundred cents when coined into an American dollar? If the government of the United States can legislate fifty cents value into 412 1-2 grains of silver why can they not legislate one hundred cents of value into silver, why not paper or any other substance as well.—Cleburne Herald(Texas.)

Hood's Pills
 Are prepared from Nature's mild laxatives, and while gentle are reliable and efficient. They

Rouse the Liver
 Cure Sick Headache, Biliousness, Sour Stomach, and Constipation. Sold everywhere, 25c. per box. Prepared by C. H. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

The question arises. Is the English language a failure when it comes to the matters of conveying ideas? The question was suggested to us first by the oral statement of Lieutenant Hodgson which was to the effect that his written emphatic denial of the alleged colloquy between Schley and himself was not intended to convey the idea that no such colloquy occurred. And now comes Mr. William Campbell, general freight agent of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois railway, who was recently called before the Inter State Commerce Commission as a witness in the Southern Rate case. The statement had been credited to Mr. Campbell that rates in the South were entirely too high, but when asked by the Commission what he thought of the rates in the South he said he considered them low enough and they should not be reduced. The following is clipped from the report of the proceedings, just following Mr. Campbell's statement that rates were low enough.

At this Mr. Bryan produced a letter written by Mr. Campbell in March, 1898, to the Charleston Bureau of Freight and Transportation, in which he characterized the rates charged by the roads south of the Ohio as exorbitant and inimical to the business interests of the South. The letter said in part: "As a matter of fact, I believe you will agree with me that the rates charged south the river, as a rule, are exorbitant and act as a barrier to the inter-change of products between the West and South. Undoubtedly, if the Southern roads would open up and show the same spirit to productive industries as is shown by our roads and the roads of the North, the spirit of industry would be stimulated and the Southern roads in the end would be benefited."

Here was Mr. Campbell's written statement to oppose his oral, and thus cornered, he hastened to explain, a la Hodgson that this letter conveyed a wrong impression. But could a statement be more explicit than his written one that "the rates charged South of the River (Ohio) as a rule are exorbitant and act as a barrier to the interchange of products." And certainly, though Mr. Campbell has seen fit to change his views, history substantiates his written, instead of his oral statement. Take one item for instance competent testimony before the recent Industrial Commission was the effect that the watermelon industry of the South was almost entirely destroyed by high railroad rates, which, to quote Mr. Campbell acted as a barrier to the interchange of these products. And coming nearer home, the truckers of Eastern North Carolina can testify to the truth of Mr. Campbell's written opinion. The truth is Mr. Campbell's opinion of last March is correct—railroad rates in the South are exorbitant.

Appropos the action of the Corporation Commission in increasing the taxable value of railroad property in the State. Nothing we can say will better demonstrate the fact that the Commission failed to do its whole duty, than is said in an editorial which appeared in the Raleigh News and Observer of February 26, 1899. New bear in mind that the old assessment was thirty-three million and that the new assessment is forty-two million and read what the News and Observer had to say when the revenue bill, including the tax upon gross incomes of railroads was before the last legislature. Said the News and Observer at that time:

"The sworn statements of the railroads in North Carolina put the total cost of the railroads at \$97,974,113. As the big systems are worth much more than the cost, this is a fair basis for the actual value of the railroads property in the State. If Judge Connor's suggestion that the correct assessment would be a sum equal to an earning basis of six per cent should be adopted, the assessment would be \$66,180,750. If we ascertain the earning basis and adopt the plan that rates in the same basis the property of individuals, the assessment would be \$65,979,834 instead of \$33,619,868.10—an assessment all out of proportion to the sworn value of the property. Is it not the duty of the Legislature to declare that the discrimination in assessing railroads shall cease? Will not every business man in the State who pays taxes on an assessment of three-fourths of the value of his property be glad to see the Legislature taking steps to put the railroads on the same basis? Will not those who have not kept posted be astonished that during all these years they have been paying tax on their property at three-fourths its value, while the railroads have escaped at about one-third of its actual value? We would not advocate and there is not a Democrat in this Legislature who would vote for any system of taxing railroads which believed would be burdensome or oppressive. This whole agitation and discussion arises from the fact that the Commission has failed to do its whole duty. It has failed to assess the railroads on a basis that is fair to all taxpayers. The return of the Democratic party to power is signalized by an action that is truly expressive of Democracy. It regulates the rates of this State are tired of the classes of demagogues—the one in the employ of corporations who howl when they are red in the face if corporations are required to observe the laws and pay taxes like other folks, and the other who are the blustering anarchists who would rob corporations and persons in order to make the people believe they are serving their interests. Of the two demagogues, the first is the worst because he has a secret feeling whose praises are not always while the blustering demagogue is so loud-mouthed that the public takes his measure and soon destroys him and his short-lived madness."

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same date as the foregoing, bearing upon the same question: "If the railroads were taxed upon their property in the same proportion as the owners of city farm property, the railroads would be assessed at \$65,000,000 instead of \$33,000,000, and would pay a tax of \$600,000 instead of \$300,000 per year. That is a fact that has been demonstrated by the debate in the House—a fact that many people would not have known unless the question had been emphasized by the spirited discussion in the House."

These figures, as the News and Observer states were clearly proven correct in the debate in the House upon the proposition to increase the tax value of R. Rs. But the railroads defeated the proposition in the legislature, and in order to let the legislature down easy, agreed to the proposition of delegating to the Corporation Commission the power to adjust the assessment. The Commission made an increase. It could not have done otherwise in view of the generally known discrepancy existing between the rate of valuation of railroad property and that of individual property; but it increased it only about ten million when if their property were assessed in proportion to other property it should have increased it at least three times that amount. It only requires a mathematical calculation to ascertain the amount of money the Corporation Commission has saved the railroads.

A Strong Bill of Indictment. Morning Post. Things certainly must be in a mess over in Kentucky as the outcome of the recent Democratic convention of that State, if the following from a "regular party paper" is at all indicative. The Mercury, published at Carlisle, that State, says: "The Mercury, as has been its custom for thirty odd years, places the Democratic ticket at the head of its column, and in doing so, reports its support it can under the circumstances, in urging the Democrats of Nicholas to 'truly round the flag, boys,' we know we are committing a sin against all decency and honor, yet our loyalty to the Democratic party impels us to submit to the edicts of the convention, even when they know that fraud, lying and treachery were used lavishly to accomplish the end reached at Louisville last week. "Faithful Democrats cannot stop to question that methods of managers is not reserved to the common folk. It is enough for the common man to know that the nomination of Nicholas is a disgrace to the party, and that the thing has been done, and it is his duty to submit, and join with our new State organ—the Courier-Journal—in shouting 'Hail to the King!'—not every Democrat who believes in the Democratic party is a traitor in politics just with us in giving the ticket a hearty support."

Could a stronger bill of indictment be drawn against a party? Then and Now. What the News and Observer thought was a fair assessment last February; and what it now applauds as meeting the demands of equity.—Farm News and Observer February 26, 1899. The sworn statements of the railroads in North Carolina put the total cost of the railroads at \$97,974,113. As the big systems are worth much more than the cost, this is a fair basis for the actual value of the railroads property in the State. If Judge Connor's suggestion that the correct assessment would be a sum equal to an earning basis of six per cent should be adopted, the assessment would be \$66,180,750. If we ascertain the earning basis and adopt the plan that rates in the same basis the property of individuals, the assessment would be \$65,979,834 instead of \$33,619,868.10—an assessment all out of proportion to the sworn value of the property. Is it not the duty of the Legislature to declare that the discrimination in assessing railroads shall cease? Will not every business man in the State who pays taxes on an assessment of three-fourths of the value of his property be glad to see the Legislature taking steps to put the railroads on the same basis? Will not those who have not kept posted be astonished that during all these years they have been paying tax on their property at three-fourths its value, while the railroads have escaped at about one-third of its actual value? We would not advocate and there is not a Democrat in this Legislature who would vote for any system of taxing railroads which believed would be burdensome or oppressive. This whole agitation and discussion arises from the fact that the Commission has failed to do its whole duty. It has failed to assess the railroads on a basis that is fair to all taxpayers. The return of the Democratic party to power is signalized by an action that is truly expressive of Democracy. It regulates the rates of this State are tired of the classes of demagogues—the one in the employ of corporations who howl when they are red in the face if corporations are required to observe the laws and pay taxes like other folks, and the other who are the blustering anarchists who would rob corporations and persons in order to make the people believe they are serving their interests. Of the two demagogues, the first is the worst because he has a secret feeling whose praises are not always while the blustering demagogue is so loud-mouthed that the public takes his measure and soon destroys him and his short-lived madness."

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RUNNING SORE ON HIS ANKLE.
 After Six Years of Intense Suffering, Promptly Cured

By S. S. S. entire circulation is a severe drain upon the vitality. In every case the poison must be eliminated from the blood, and no amount of external treatment can have any effect. There is no uncertainty about the merits of S. S. S.; every claim made for it is backed up strongly by convincing testimony of those who have been cured by it and know of its virtues by experience.

Mr. L. J. Clark, of Orange Courthouse, Va., writes: "For six years I had an obstinate, running ulcer on my ankle, which at times caused me intense suffering. I was so disabled for a long while that I was wholly unfit for business. One of the best doctors treated me constantly but did me no good. I used every kind of blood remedy, without the least benefit. S. S. S. was so highly recommended that I concluded to try it, and the effect was wonderful. It seemed to get right at the seat of the disease, and force the poison out, and I was soon completely cured." Swift's Specific.

S. S. S. FOR THE BLOOD
 —drives out every trace of impurity in the blood, and in this way cures permanently the most obstinate, deep-seated sore or ulcer. It is the only blood remedy guaranteed purely vegetable, and contains no particle of potash, mercury, or other mineral. S. S. S. cures Contagious Blood Poison, Scrofula, Cancer, Rheumatism, Sores, Ulcers, Boils, or any other blood trouble. Insist upon S. S. S.; nothing else will take the place of it. Valuable books mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Obstinate sores and ulcers which refuse to heal under ordinary treatment soon become chronic and deep-seated, and are a sure sign that the poison is in the system, and are constantly sapping away the vitality. In every case the poison must be eliminated from the blood, and no amount of external treatment can have any effect. There is no uncertainty about the merits of S. S. S.; every claim made for it is backed up strongly by convincing testimony of those who have been cured by it and know of its virtues by experience.

And now comes Senator Morgan the great apostle to the silverites, and says that the Democratic party for the sake of harmony ought to forsake the silver issue to the rear. For a great principle for harmony or to satisfy those who do not believe in principle. If this is not enough to disgust the man who has remained in the Democratic party because he believed the party put principles above party we know of nothing capable of disgusting him. The Democratic politicians can twist the rank and file of their party into any shape or position desired, and they haven't as much grit as a pig, for the pig will squeal and get away from his tormentor if possible.—The Economist—(Windsor, Ga.)

Roundup Bale Becomes Popular. The American Cotton Company has met with marked success in the development of its Roundup bale business. Last year it had less than sixty presses in operation while the year before it will have over 500 at work. Its plant at Chicago for building these presses is running night and day and new locations are being selected as rapidly as possible.

A Patent on Corcob for Kindling. Two Kansas men, Robert M. Sikke and Ernest M. Bourne, of Wichita, have been granted a patent for the utilization of corcob for kindling. They propose to remove the pith of the corcob and in its place put a mixture which is highly inflammable, then sealing the ends with plaster and dipping the whole thing in resin. They claim that a match touched to their patent corcob will make a roaring fire in short order—Ex.

Story of a Slave. To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease is the worst form of slavery. George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., tells how such a slave was made free. He says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters, she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." "This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, headache, fainting and dizzy spells. This miracle working medicine is a godsend to weak, sickly, run down people. Every bottle guaranteed Only 50 cents Sold by All Druggists."

The second installment of "A Confident Tomorrow," a new novel by Brander Matthews, appears in the current number of Harper's Bazar. It is a story of life among New York's literary set, and will run until late in the fall.

WOMEN AND MEN
 Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased. For pleasing results use Dr. Klemmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy. At druggists. Sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet. Address: Dr. Klemmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

The man who is thoroughly imbued with the idea that a public office is a public trust doesn't believe in investigating committees.—Ex.

The Health of Our Women.
 Pe-ru-na aids women to overcome nervousness and all catarrhal troubles.



the health of women is continually talked about and constantly neglected. American women are not strong; they have the habit of overwork. Our manner of life tells on them. Nervous women abound. Their delicate organism quickly shows the effect of disturbed nerves. The most successful medicine for women suffering from any female trouble is Pe-ru-na. It regulates the nerves and drives out inflammation. Mrs. L. Pearson, Darlington, S. C., writes her experience with nervous troubles, and tells how Pe-ru-na made her well. She says: "Dr. S. B. Hartman, Columbus, O. DEAR SIR:—I have read many books in regard to health but none like yours. I shall never be able to thank you in words. I can see just as ever. Before I started to use your medicine my nerves were so weak I could not pick up a pin. I had once thought to stop my work. I thought teaching school was against me, but after receiving your books and using your medicine it has cured me. Now I am able to teach my school classes. I have received the book you sent me and am very proud of it. I had tried two doctors for about five years. Your medicine was my only relief. Now I can say I am perfectly well. Every kind of medicine I had tried failed, but Pe-ru-na cured me."

Dr. Hartman has completed arrangements to give personal attention the question blank for women. No charge will be made for this private counsel. Dr. Hartman's book called "Health and Beauty" explains this fully. Write to the Pe-ru-na Medicine Co. and secure it free. Mrs. Alvin Halsey, Ritz Falls, Wis., in a letter to Dr. Hartman, says: "I was troubled for ten years with chronic catarrh. I used Pe-ru-na and Lo-cu-pe, and must say I am perfectly cured of the disease." Pe-ru-na has been curing every phase of catarrh for many years. It has a record of unvarying success. All druggists sell Pe-ru-na.

"A NOBLESSE ASSURANT." Many times Democrats Opposed to the "Grandson of His Grand-father" Constitutional Amendment Clause.

The correspondent of the Charlotte Observer, writing to that paper from Fayetteville, under date of March 4th, says: The Observer correctly gauges public sentiment in throwing out a word of warning against taking for granted the carrying of the ballot box of the suffrage constitutional amendment. It will require hard work from the rank and file and leaders of the party. There is certainly a cloud on the title of the Cape Fear Democracy to orthodoxy, but the writer is surprised at the number of leading Democrats whom he meets or poses to the amendment. The clause about the "grand son of his grand-father" is especially decried as a monstrous absurdity. The suffrage amendment referred to above, which was adopted by the last Legislature, is as follows:

SECTION I. That Article VI of the Constitution of North Carolina be, and the same is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof shall be substituted the following Article of Said Constitution:

ARTICLE VI. Suffrage and Eligibility to Office—Qualifications of an Elector. Section 1. Every male person born in the United States, and every male person who has been naturalized, 21 years of age and possessing the qualifications set out in this Article shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people in the State, except as herein otherwise provided. Section 2. He shall have resided in the State of North Carolina for two years, in the county six months and in the precinct, ward or other election district, in which he offers to vote four months next preceding the election: Provided, That removal from one precinct, ward or other election district to another in the same county, shall not operate to deprive any person of the right to vote in a precinct, ward or other election district from which he has removed until after such removal. No person who has been convicted, or who has confessed his guilt in open court upon indictment, of any crime, the punishment of which is, or may thereafter be, imprisonment in the State prison, shall be permitted to vote unless the said person shall be first restored to citizenship in the manner prescribed by law.

Section 3. Every person offering to vote shall be at the time a legally registered voter as herein prescribed in the manner hereinafter provided by law, and the General Assembly of North Carolina shall enact general registration laws to carry into effect the provisions of this Article.

Section 4. Every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language; and, before he shall be entitled to vote, have paid, on or before the first day of March of the year in which he proposes to vote, his poll tax, as prescribed by law, for the previous year. Poll taxes shall be a lien only on assessed property, and no process shall issue to enforce the collection of the same except against assessed property.

Section 5. No male person, who was on January 1, 1867, or at any time prior thereto, entitled to vote under the laws of any State in the United States wherein he then resided, and no lineal descendant of any such person; shall be denied the right to register and vote at any election in this State by reason of his failure to possess the educational qualifications prescribed in section 4 of this Article: Provided, He shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this section prior to Dec. 1, 1908.

The General Assembly shall provide for a permanent record of persons who register under this section on or before November 1, 1908, and all such persons shall be entitled to register and vote at all elections by the people in this State, unless disqualified under section 2 of this Article: Provided such persons shall have paid their poll tax as required by law.

Section 6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by the General Assembly shall be viva voce.

Section 7. Every voter in North Carolina, except as in this Art. disqualified, shall be eligible to office, but before entering upon the duties of the office he shall take and subscribe the following oath: "I,....., do solemnly swear or affirm, that I will support and maintain the constitution and laws of the U. S. and the constitution and laws of North Carolina, not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as..... So help me God."

Consumer's Goods Co.
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