An excellent Seat for Ironworks,

in Frederick County, Virginia, on Back Creek, within 18 miles of Winchester, and on Thomas's road to the Western waters,

TO BE SOLD.

THIS seat contains 4400 acres, and was purchased by the subscriber of the late Thomas Lord Fairfax, by patent, bearing date the 1st day of December, 1772. The proprietor lately procured a skilful mineralist to examine it, and faithfully to report every material fact relative to its advantages and disadvantages, in order to enable him to form a just opinion of its worth. From these circumstances, the candor of the reporter may be relied on, particularly as his character is well supported by the certificate of Gerar Lainard, Esq. speaker of the house of representatives of Pennsylvania. The report of Mr. Bidwell, and the certificate of his character, are hereto subjoined. Alexander White, Esq. in the city of Washington, in the district of Columbia, and Alexander White, 3d, of the town of Winchester, in the commonwealth of Virginia, are duly authorised by me to dispose of this valuable seat, and to them any person desirous of purchasing will please to apply.

JOSEPH WHARTON.

Philadelphia, June 19, 1797.

Description of the preceding tract by Mr. THOMAS BIDWELL.

Back Creek, 18 miles from Winchester.

IRON ORE.

This is found in vast bodies, and from the discoveries I have been able to make thereupon, I conceive it highly valuable. It is found upon the high ground, and forms a range and regular flat strata quite into the north mountain, and in which it is visible on the other side, and from which there cannot exist a doubt of its being in sufficient quantity for any works, however large the scale.

WATER and WOOD.

Cove Run, and also Laurel Run, after their confluence, forms a stream sufficient for any kind of works to command them, besides which, at a small expence a powerful spring in the mountain, above these two may be introduced. Those springs are never affected by the severest frosts to considerable extent, and are termed by the inhabitants, the warm springs. The waters, in some distance from the place above mentioned, lose in their quantity, owing, I presume, to the lax nature of the hills of stone they course over. The face of the country is here well formed for dams, &c. at a small expence, by which extensive beds of water may be collected. Respecting the stock wood, the north mountain will, of itself, afford an almost inexhaustible quantity.

LAND.

I estimate this tract at about 300 acres of tillable, and 2300 acres of bottom land. Much is certain with stones and incapable of tillage, of which, that called Bear Ridge is, I think, 300 feet perpendicular.

ROADS.

Three hundred dollars would be sufficient to open a good road into the main road from Winchester to the westward. A person of the name of Gopher, has offered to complete it, and give security for the performance of the same, for 150 dollars. Its situation is, without doubt, highly advantageous, as there is not the least intervention of a hill between the main road and the spot pointed out for the furnace.

This part of the country seems destitute of iron, all supplies having ceased since the Cove's works became silent. It seems to be the intent with of the inhabitants, that an establishment of this kind should take place. The present price of iron is 80 pence per lb weight.

Taking into one view the value of this extensive body of ore, the water, wood, situation as respecting market, the great demand exist ng at present for this article, and the facility of conveyance to any part of the country—I am, I say, from a view of the whole of these important advantages induced to put a high price on this tract.

THOMAS BIDWELL.

Philadelphia, June 24, 1796.

Character of Mr Thomas Bidwell, by George Latimer, Esq Speaker of the house of representatives of the state of Pennsylvania.

I have long known Mr. Thos Bidwell of this city, and therefore can of a truth declare, that I believe him to be a man of the strictest temperance, candor and integrity, and, in his profession as a mineralist, I should have the utmost confidence in his knowledge of metals, particularly in iron ore, which can be known by certain information, been much conversant; and in the characters he may give of his treats, as well in metalic substance as in soil, timber, water, &c. I am fearless he would be rather under the value and description, than in the least bordering on exaggeration

Philadelphia, May 6, 1796.

(Signed) GEORGE LATIMER.

To whom it may concern.

C At nine & thirt. Sp wed aw.

John Halsey,

No. 81, Pearl-street, has for Sale,

70 quarter casks approved old sherry wine
White and red port wines,
claret, burgoyne, champaign, } in cases of 1 and 2 doz. each
hock, best or prime,
80 casks Madeira wine, 50 years old
20 hogsheads Rattia rum
2 hhds and 1 tierce cutlery and tablery
1 box carpenter's tools
Table cloths and napkins of various sizes
20 pieces broad Scotch diaper
2 bales do. towelling
15 boxes well-assorted German glass-ware, consisting of tumblers, decanters, wine glasses, &c.
6 puncheons London delto
2 hhds best Liverpool blue and white crockery ware
Irish linen, No. 1, 2, Cork manufacture
30 boxes superfine candy
A well chosen assortment of framed looking-glasses, looking-glass plates and tops, such as trusses boxes, portes-feuilles, &c.
2 box mothers of pearl beads
5 do bohea tea
2 do nutmegs
50 Mquills of the very first quality for counting house use
60 reams Dutch letter paper
2 tons German steel
2 kegs lapidated brass fit for family use
A parcel of snuffers
An elegant circular table fire
A choice assortment of gold and silver Lady's and gentlemen's watches
Dec 11. tf

New-York Insurance Company.

THE Stockholders of the New-York Insurance Company are hereby informed, that agreeable to the constitution of the company, an Election for twenty-one Directors will be held at their office in Wall-street, on Monday, the first day of January next, at two o'clock in the afternoon. By order of the president and directors.

DANIEL PHOENIX, Sec.

New-York, Dec. 7, 1797. 1 w t. Jan 1

BY order of the honorable Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of the State of New-York, Notice is hereby given to all the creditors of *Stephen Mocatta*, late of said debtor, that they the creditors, if any they have, be forthwith called, to shew cause why the said debtor should not be discharged according to the directions of the act, intitled, "An act for giving relief in cases of insolvency," passed the 21st March, 1788.

Dated this 6th day of December, 1797.

Prince & Ary STEPHEN NOCUS.

Anthony Bleecker, one of the petitioning creditors.

Dec 7 thurs 6w

LETTER XXII.

To Dr. WILLIAM CURRIE.

I should be afraid, Sir, to add, this one Letter to what I have before written, on the doctrin of epidemics, had I not been assured, from various quarters, of the very favorable reception of my remarks by many of the faculty in this city, by the commissioners of health, and many respectable citizens. This circumstance, together with my conviction of the extreme importance of this subject to the future health and happiness of our new Republic, has induced me to subjoin an account of that terrible pestilence, the ulcerous sore throat, which ravaged our country in 1735 and 1736. The account is from Dr. Belknap's history of New-Hampshire, vol. 2, page 118, and is in the following words:

"About this time, the country was visited with a new epidemic disease, which has obtained the name of the *throat distemper*. The general description of it is a swelled throat, with white or ash-colored specks; an efflorescence on the skin, great debility of the whole system, and a strong tendency to putridity. Its first appearance was in May 1735, at Kingston in New-Hampshire, an inland town, situate on a low plain. The first person seized, was a child, who died in three days. About a week after, in another family, at the distance of four miles, 3 children were successively attacked, who also died on the third day. It continued spreading gradually in that township, thro the summer, and of the sick forty who had it, none recovered. In August it began to make its appearance in Exeter, six miles north-eastward; and in September, at Boston,* 50 miles southward, tho it was October before it reached Chester, the nearest settlement on the west of Kingston. It continued its ravages thro the succeeding winter and spring, and did not disappear till the end of the next summer.

"The most who died of this pestilence were children; and the distress which it occasioned, was heightened to the most poignant degree. From three to six children were lost out of some families; several buried four in a day, and many lost their all. In some towns, one in three, and in others one in four of the sick were carried off. In the parish of Hampton-Falls it raged most violently. Twenty-families buried all their children. Twenty-seven persons were lost out of five families; and more than one sixth part of the inhabitants of that place died within thirteen months. In the whole province, not less than one thousand persons, of whom above nine hundred were under 20 years of age, fell victims to this raging distemper.

"Since the settlement of this country, such a mortality had not been known. It was observed, that the distemper proved most fatal, when plentiful evacuations, particularly bleeding, were used; a great prostration of strength being an invariable symptom. The summer of 1735, when the sickness began, was unusually wet and cold, and the easterly wind greatly prevailed. But it was acknowledged to be, not 'a creature of the season;' as it raged thro every part of the year. Its extent is said to have been 'from Pemaquid to Carolina;' but with what virulence it raged, or in what measure it proved fatal, to the southward of New-England, does not appear.

"The same distemper has made its appearance at various times since. In 1754 and 1755, it produced a great mortality in several parts of New-Hampshire, and the neighboring parts of Massachusetts. Since that time it has either put on a milder form, or physicians have become better acquainted with it. The last time of its general spreading was in 1784, 5, 6 and 7. It was first seen at Sanford in the county of York; and thence diffused itself very slowly, thro most of the towns of New-England; but its virulence, and the mortality which it caused, were comparatively inconsiderable. Its remote, or predisposing cause, is one of those mysteries of nature, which baffle human inquiry."

I regret, Sir, that I have not an equally correct history of that formidable disease, in other parts of this country. It was a general and terrible pestilence; and numbers of old people, now living, can doubtless state many useful facts about its first appearance, progress and symptoms. The distemper is a distinct disease from that class to which the yellow fever belongs; but it was another species of *plague*, and exhibited a number of phenomena, which correspond with those of the plague, and which serve to illustrate the doctrine of epidemics.

First. It was, says our faithful historian, a *new* epidemic in this country. It might have occurred before in particular cases; but never spread as an epidemic and mortal pestilence.—The *novelty* of the disease therefore is no objection to its existence, nor to its domestic origin: Another fact to overthrow the grounds of your doctrine.

2. It was generated in *our* country. It appeared in an inland town of New-Hampshire, on a low plain, in a remarkably cold and wet season.

3. It was *highly infectious*; but was not spread *solely* by infection. On the contrary, it originated in a *contagious* influence of the atmosphere, in various distant places. A decisive proof of the doctrin I am maintaining, of an epidemic constitution of the air.

4. This disease exhibited, in a most striking manner, the phenomena before mentioned of the plague in Italy, and in the United States—That in passing by, or so to speak, *hopping over* towns near, or adjacent to the infected places, and breaking forth in distant towns. Thus the sore throat appeared at Kingston in May 5 at Exeter, six miles north east, in August—In Boston, fifty miles southward in September—and in Chester, only six miles westward from the original source of infection, not till October. And it is noted that in Boston it was not communicated by infection from another town. It had then passed by the intermediate towns, which are numerous and large, between Kingston and Boston. I say *passed by*; not that I mean a contagion had *moved* from New-Hampshire to Boston; I use the words in conformity to Dr. Mead's idea, that a disease is carried from place to place by infection.

But this is not my own opinion. I believe this state of air, which I call *contagion*, to originate from *general causes* which are *unknown*, aided by *local causes*—that is, a general predisposing state of the atmosphere, exists at a particular period—and whenever local causes unite their influence with it, a disease will appear where those local causes operate. This may be in various distant places at the same time.

5. A circumstance related of this disease is remarkably analagous to one observed in the plague; viz. that it was *most mortal on its first appearance*. Of the *first forty* children affected in Kingston, *not one* recovered. The plague was probably never so fatal. It afterwards assumed a milder form; and in Boston but a small proportion of the diseased died. On the whole, the mortality equalled that of the worst forms of the plague. In fifteen towns, in New-Hampshire, which might contain on an average one thousand or twelve hundred souls each, more than a thousand persons died, mostly children.

I have one idea to suggest on the subject of epidemics, which may be useful in illustrating the doctrin of a contagious constitution of atmosphere. This is, that men of leisure and who have large libraries, should examin how far mortal epidemic diseases have occurred about the *same* time, in *different* countries. I cannot at present examin this point. On recollection, it occurs to my mind from reading that some remarkable coincidences of this kind are observable. The general pestilence in the days of Justinian, and that in 1346 to 8, have been noticed.

The time of the terrible sore throat just described corresponds precisely with the most dreadful plague Egypt has known this century, viz. 1736. It was said that 10,000 died in Cairo in a day—this is probably an exaggeration. The yellow fever appeared in Charlestown in 1741 and about that time in New-York. This might all be the same period of pestilential constitution in the air. The general plague in the Levant, described by Russel, appeared in 1758, and lasted till 1765—a period of seven years. And with this period corresponds the appearance of the yellow fever again in the southern States of America; viz. in 1762. The greatest period of yellow fever in the United States has lasted upwards of four years, and in this period, the same disease has raged with such unusual violence in the West-Indies, as to be supposed a new disease and *imported* from Africa. *See Chisholm.*

These phenomena result from some established laws of the universe—To attribute such extensive effects to *infection*, is like ascribing the flowing of tides to a puff of air from a handbellows.

The subject is as curious as it is useful, and I wish I had time and the means to pursue it. But enough has been written to convince candid impartial inquirers after truth: It appears to me that, those who will not believe the facts here related and their necessary consequences, would not believe "tho one should rise from the dead."

The application of the principles here explained, the most important part of my subject, remains alone to be considered.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

N. WEBSTER, jun.

FROM THE SENTINEL.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

The weight and glory of the present European War by sea, rests wholly on this power [—] And as she is the only one which may be said to have *gained* any thing by it? Her conquests in India have been many—of which Pondicherry from the French and Ceylon from the Dutch are among the most considerable.—In Africa she has acquired the Cape of Good Hope; and in the Western World, several fertile and valuable islands; at the same time we do not recollect an inch of territory, which she possessed at the commencement of the war, she does not now hold. Her fleets may be said to ride triumphant on the ocean—as with three divisions of them, she blockades and keeps up the grand fleets of the ports of Cadiz, Brest, and the Texel; besides furnishing ample convoys for her merchantmen. At the beginning of October her naval force amounted to seven hundred and fifty vessels—of which the following is the detail—In commission 131 sail of the line, 28 fifties, 174 frigates, and 277 sloops of war. In ordinary, 27 sail of the line, 5 fifties, 36 frigates, and 48 sloops. Building, 22 sail of the line, 3 fifties and 3 frigates, and 7 sloops of war. The distribution of this immense force, was as follows:

In port and fitting, 28 of the line, 2 fifties, 24 frigates, and 141 sloops;

Guardships, &c. 19 of the line, 3 fifties, 9 frigates.

In the English and Irish channels, 18 sail of the line, 32 frigates, and 58 sloops:

In the Downs and North Seas, 19 of the line, 3 fifties, 13 frigates, and 20 sloops:

In the West Indies (Jamaica included) 18 of the line, 3 fifties, 30 frigates, and 29 sloops:

In America and Newfoundland, 1 of the line, 8 fifties, 14 frigates, and 9 sloops:

In the East Indies, and on the passage; 14 of the line, 4 fifties, 15 frigates, and 8 sloops:

At Gibraltar (Cadiz) and Mediterranean, 19 of the line, 1 fifty, 25 frigates, and 10 sloops.

With a force so considerable, Great Britain has a claim to the first maritime power on earth. Her land forces are not numerous compared either with France or Germany; and they are scattered in various quarters of the world. The greatest body of her troops is in Ireland.—This military force must be kept up at great expense; and notwithstanding the ground work for making it may afford to Englishmen, it must make the people who are necessitated to support it, anxious for its diminution.—This anxiety is repeatedly expressed in memorials and petitions; which are, however, either evaded, or unregarded.—Mr. Pitt's power is supreme, and he appears only to ask for new grants of money and they are given; to propose new taxes and they are levied.—New objects are readily found, are complained of for a time; but at last are acquiesced in. The old taxes experience also the most rapid extension. We shall name only one article: The stamp on newspapers in 1789, was *three half pence*; it is now *three pence half penny*, more than double in ten years!—Still the national debt increases; and in *September* it was found to be more than 427 millions! With this unmeasured load to encounter, and the extraordinary expenses of war to defray, it was to be expected, that the British ministry would have been anxious for peace; and that the sacrifice could not be too great, which could obtain the blessing.—Peace has not as yet been effected, tho *apparent* attempts have been made to obtain it.

THE DISTRICT OF MAINE,

A part of Massachusettes; [*Situated between lat. 43 and 48, N. is nearly 700 miles in length and almost the same in breadth; contains 40,000 square miles, or 25,600,000 acres of land, and 96,540 fire people; sends three members to Congress.*]—Daily acquiring that best of wealth, an increased population.—Its commerce too, can boast a rapid and extensive augmentation. Its citizens are enterprizing, industrious, and in general well-informed—Its federalism has been decided by the election of the Hon. Mr. Parker; and, although some partial acts of insurgency have been committed by the settlers on disputed lands, the general character of the citizens for attachment to order and law, cannot be called in question. A spirit of improvement is increasing daily; and we must notice an instance, in the recent erection of *Kennebeck Bridge*; which is open for the accommodation of travellers. A short description of this bridge may be due to those public spirited citizens, whose influence and exertions insured the success of so an ardauous an enterprize.—"It is 577 feet long, and 36 wide. Two arches, the cord of each 187 feet in length, and the centre elevated 58 feet from the surface, are supported upon a pier of solid stone sunk in the middle of the river, and stone abutments on the opposite shores.

"The surface of the pier is 44 feet by 43; from the bottom of the pier to the floor of the bridge is 52 feet, with a heater 57 feet long, and where it connects with the pier 45 wide. The abutments are 41 feet in front, and 36 feet high; that on the east bank extends 58 feet eastward, and is connected with a heater extending 80 feet up the river; that on the west extends westward 87 feet, and the heater 128 feet, upon which the Toll-House is erected.

"Europe has repeatedly acknowleged and rewarded the ingenuity of Americans in the mechanic arts, and especially in the construction of bridges. The Kennebeck bridge is a valuable addition to the specimens of skill already exhibited. Much credit is due to the superintendant, Maj. Moses Boynton; who, by availing himself of his experience in similar undertakings, has avoided their errors and adopted their improvements. Our testimony of approbation, tho it may indulge our feelings, can add little to his merit. This and former bridges he has constructed in Massachusetts, Vermont and New-Hampshire, are far more durable and unequivocal monuments of applause."

ON THE EIGHTEENTH FRUCTIDOR.

FROM THE JOURNAL DE PARIS,

BY REDDERER.

It is not the spirit of petty clubs, of the commune of Paris, of a department, but the result of the opinion of all France, that we should examine.

Previous to the 18th Fructidor, (Sept. 4) and on the evening of that memorable day, what were the then, what the discourse, of every reasonable Frenchman who sincerely desired the happiness of his country? They were these, that since the installation of the directory, our armies had marched with a firm step towards decisive victories; that treaties of peace and alliance were concluded with several states; that France respected abroad, made daily progress towards internal tranquility; that confidence was regenerated, and public credit so much augmented that the anticipations rapidly rose to value.

On the other hand, they remarked, that, after the arrival of the new third, our external enemies resumed more audacity, and became more obstinate respecting the terms of a peace which they had solicited; that all the public funds experienced a frightful diminution of value; that no confidence remained in the stability of national property exposed to sales and, finally, that we were proceeding, with large strides towards civil war, and the complete dissolution of the social body.

What then, said they, is become of the directorial force? Are not the directors still the same who, armed with the national thunder, struck with terror and astonishment so many perfidious nations—who placed at the head of our armies so many republicans? Those chiefs who have been the fool of so many victories, will find enemies among their own countrymen, among the very people for whom they have done so much! Placed in the first rank, to preserve, to defend the constitution, they will leave it to be outraged, assailed, and involved to ruin; they will leave us to be plunged in all the horrors of royalism, anarchy, and civil war.

Such was their discourse at that period. But what is their language since the day of explosion has at last arrived, and our warriors, still covered with the honorable laurels which they reaped on the frontiers, have, by their aspect alone, without any effusion of blood, dissipated in an instant all these political vermin, engendered in the daughill of royalty and nobility?—That France is once more saved; that the hope of our enemies is frustrated; that confidence again reigns in our hearts; that peace draws near, a peace not precarious or humbly sued for, not doubtful and compounded by necessity, but more certain because less necessary—more glorious because our republican phalanxes are ready to complete the ruin of our enemies if they do not speedily accept our conditions; that public credit re-establishes itself, commerce and agriculture flourish anew; that the directory, and our brave defenders, who have so well, promptly and and effectually seconded their efforts, in covering themselves with glory, have finally fixed the public opinion, and demonstrated that the friends of the constitution of the 3d year may securely repose themselves in its bosom; and that there remains to its enemies the shameful only of changing their sentiments, or of quitting the soil of liberty.

HORSES.

A Pair of large bay *Horses*, near 17 hands high, for sale. Inquire at Smith's Livery Stable, Vandewater street, near Pearl street. *Price* four hundred dollars.

Dec 5 —6w.

FOR SALE,

THE lot of GROUND and STORE, now occupied by Messrs. Kip and Dal on near the Old Albany pason. Apply to ISAAC TIFFORD,

nov. 17. 1m Nos 141 Pearl street.

Commercial Advertiser.

NEW-YORK:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14.

The Romans, after a long war, compelled the Carthaginians to solicit a peace. Some of the prisoners lay at the door of the senate-house, were asked by the Consul Plutius, in what manner they would behave in future, if the senate would grant them pardon and peace? One of them replied, "If the conditions of peace be such as may impose on us, are just and humane, that we shall not blush to receive them, we shall maintain it faithfully; but if the terms should be disgraceful, you must not hope that the necessity which compels us to subscribe it to day, will oblige us to keep it to-morrow."

These noble sentiments made their due impression on that august body, the senate; peace was concluded and the Carthaginians received as Roman citizens.

How different is the little spiteful, revengeful, dishonorial policy of the French, who demand of their enemies, as the conditions of peace, to yield every thing, and receive nothing! Such hard, oppressive and unequal terms, even if the Emperor and Great Britain could be forced to subscribe to them, would be but a scure a long interval of peace. On the other hand, they would certainly occasion another war. Such a peace would be only a truce, to enable the humbled parties to collect force to recover their honor. Indeed *respectful war* seems to be the object of the present disposition in France. Their constitution, their laws and their treaties with Holland and Spain, by guaranteeing to the Republic and her allies certain territories, have rendered it necessary for France to reduce her enemies to *their own* terms, or the war is interminable. UNIVERSAL CONQUEST OR PERPETUAL WAR, is the motto of the republican policy.

The destruction of wood in our country is one of the most alarming circumstances, in our political economy. It is impolitic and unnecessary, thus to cut off the wood, without attempting to replace it. Timber and fuel will soon be extremely scarce and dear. Our people are every day lamenting the folly of their fathers, without an effort to stop the evil. To want wood in this country, is extreme folly and negligence. We have land enough, and we have only to plant the seeds and protect the young trees a few years; nature will do the rest, with little aid.

Legislators ought to attend to this thing, and that without loss of time. Suppose, as all parts of the state but especially near the Atlantic, the owners of land were compelled to plant some useful trees, on the borders of their fields, near the fences. Let the distance between the trees be defined; but every field should be lined with rows of trees; and also the highways; every owner of a lot being obliged to plant trees against his own front.

The mode of compulsion should be by taxing every field, which, in a given time, by two or three years, should not be thus planted with trees on its borders.—The tax to be not unreasonably heavy, but sufficient to encourage the work.

This regulation would give rise to a prodigious increase of wood, with very little injury to cultivation. A single row of trees, extended one hundred miles in the highway, at the distance of 20 feet from each other, would consist of two hundred and sixty four thousand trees, each of which in 30 years, we will suppose, would make half a cord of wood, or 132,000 cords. The wood be worth, standing between New-York and New Haven, 3 dollars a cord, or 378,000 dollars; and would serve with fuel, 8,800 families, or the whole city of New York, for one year.

We rarely see objects of curiosity and improvement more completely united, than in the PANORAMA in Greenwich-street. Every one knows and acknowledges the utility of maps, charts and prints—but the view of the city of London, that vast emporium of commerce, transports the spectator to the spot, and makes him acquainted with things as they really exist. The view of the river Thames, the three bridges, the principal buildings and streets, is executed on so large a scale, as to give a very just idea of the whole. and every person, who expects ever to see the city, will do well to avail himself of the advantage now offered him to obtain a good general idea of the first commercial city in the world

The musical clock at the same place, is a piece of curious mechanism—its sounds are formed by pipes—the tones are inexpressibly soft, and the music very perfect.

The following gentlemen were, upon examination at the present session, admitted to practice as counsellors in the Mayor's court of this city—

Anthony Bleecker,
George I. Eaton,
William Coleman,
Charles Baldwin, and
Robert Bogardus.

A Canada paper informs us, that the public road, proposed to be laid out from the province line, at Missisquoie bay to St. John's, will be a continuation of the great public road already laid out from New-York to that place, where a line of Stages are established, and will run as soon as the road can be rendered practicable from New-York quite to St. John's; and adds that this road, when effected, will no doubt be the most expeditious and convenient one to travel from this country to the United states, as it will be passable at all seasons of the year, and runs through a fertile and settled country, south of the river 450.

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