

The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, FEBRUARY 26, 1850.

ENGLISH MAIL.—The Royal Mail steam ship America, with the mail of the 15th instant, arrived at Halifax about 10 o'clock on Saturday night, in a passage of 14 days, and was the first mail steamer in this city yesterday afternoon.

The Cotton Market was without alteration. Sales of the fortnight 32,000 bales.—Business in the Manufacturing Districts was satisfactory. Other branches of Trade without change.

The market for all descriptions of Breadstuffs continued in a very dull and languid state. Best Western Corn Flour was quoted at 24s. 6d. to 24s. 9d. and Oatmeal at 21s. 6d. to 21s. 9d.

Prices of Iron are firmer, but there is little activity in the trade. Money is more in request, and better terms are procured.

According to the weekly returns of the Bank of England, published on Friday, the amount of notes in actual circulation, in the week ending Saturday, Jan. 23, including seven days' and other bills, was £20,277,137, an increase during the week of £392,273; the amount of gold and silver coin and bullion in the hands of the Bank, £16,784,301, a decrease of £32,123.

The Tea Trade.—We learn that the tonnage of shipping employed in the timber trade for the past year has been 339,224 tons, and in a former year it reached 328,730 tons. The amount paid for the timber last year for duty was about £40,000, being one-sixth of the whole income of the Dock estate.

The only accommodation the timber trade has had for this very large proportion of the payments towards the Dock, has been the Brunswick Dock, with its quay on the east side, and a portion of the quay on the west side.—Liverpool Mercury.

Serious riots have occurred in Paris, and the City is in a state of alarm. Greece has been blockaded by the British fleet, and France has offered to mediate.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—The Imperial Parliament was opened on Thursday 31st January, with the usual formalities, and the Lord Chancellor read the Queen's speech, by commission.

My Lords and Gentlemen, We are commanded by Her Majesty to assure you that Her Majesty has great satisfaction in again having recourse to the advice and assistance of Parliament.

The decease of Her Majesty the Queen Adelaide has caused Her Majesty deep affliction; the extensive charity and exemplary virtues of her late Majesty will always render her memory dear to the nation.

Her Majesty happily continues in peace and amity with Foreign Powers. In the course of the autumn differences between the Governments of Austria and Russia on the one hand and the Sublime Porte on the other, regarding the treatment of a considerable number of persons who, at the termination of a civil war in Hungary, had taken refuge in the Turkish territory. Explanations which took place between the Turkish and Imperial Governments have fortunately removed any danger to the peace of Europe which might have arisen out of these difficulties. Her Majesty having been appealed to on the occasion by the Sultan, stated her efforts with those of the Government of France, to which she has appointed plenipotentiaries, to assist in effecting an amicable settlement of these difficulties, in a manner consistent with the dignity and honour of the Porte.

Her Majesty has been engaged in communication with Foreign States on the measures which had been rendered necessary by the alteration of the restrictive laws which formerly had been imposed by the navigation laws of this country.

The Governments of the United States of America and of Sweden have promptly taken steps to remove to British subjects the same restrictions which have been imposed by the navigation laws of those countries. Her Majesty has received from nearly all of them assurances which induced her to hope that our example will speedily lead to a general relaxation of the restrictive barriers which previously existed to a free intercourse by sea between the nations of the world in the summer and autumn of last year.

The United Kingdom has been visited by the ravages of the cholera. Almighty God, in His mercy, was pleased to arrest the progress of the mortality, and to stay this fearful pestilence. Her Majesty is proud to be able to express her gratitude by vigilant precautions against the more obvious causes of sickness, and more enlightened consideration of those who are exposed to its attacks.

Her Majesty in her late visit to Ireland derived the highest gratification from the loyalty and attachment of her Majesty's subjects. Although the effects of former years' distress were manifestly felt in that part of the United Kingdom, they are mitigated by the present abundance of food, and the tranquillity which prevails.

Her Majesty has great satisfaction in congratulating you on the improved condition of commerce and manufactures.

It is with regret that Her Majesty observes that complaints with in many parts of the kingdom have proceeded from the excess and intemperance of land. Her Majesty greatly laments that any portion of her subjects should be in distress, but it is a source of sincere affliction to Her Majesty to witness the increase of intemperance, the necessities and comforts of life, which elapses and plenty have bestowed upon the great body of the people.

Gratification of the House of Commons.—Her Majesty has directed the estimate for the year to be laid before you; they have been framed with a strict regard to economy, while the efficiency of the various branches of the public service has not been neglected.

Her Majesty was with satisfaction the present state of the revenue.

My Lords and Gentlemen, Some of the measures proposed at the end of last session for want of time for their consideration, will be again laid before you. Amongst the most important of these is one for the better government of the Australian Colonies.

Her Majesty has directed various measures to be prepared for the improvement of the condition of Ireland, and the mischief arising from party processions, the defect of the law regulating the relation of landlords and tenants, the imperfect state of the grand jury acts, and the diminutive number of electors of members to serve in Parliament, will, together with matters of serious consequence, form the subject of measures to be submitted for consideration.

Her Majesty has learned with satisfaction that the measures which have already been passed for the promotion of the public health are in a course of gradual adoption; and Her Majesty trusts that both in the metropolis and in various parts of the United Kingdom you will be enabled to make further progress in the removal of evils which affect the health and well-being of her subjects.

The favour of Divine Providence has hitherto preserved this Kingdom from the wanton calamities which, during the last few years, have afflicted so many of the States of the Continent of Europe. It is Her Majesty's hope and belief, by continuing liberty with order, by preserving with a good and improving spirit a free constitution, and by assisting the fabric of our institutions as the bond and shelter of a free and happy people.

Lord Dudley Stuart, on Thursday, moved for papers in respect to the Hungarian refugee proceedings, and brought in a bill in relation to the same. The bill was read in a private bill in the House of Commons on Friday, and Lord Russell moved his Bill for the better government of the Australian

Colonies, and made his promised explanation of the policy which the Government had proposed to adopt towards the Colonies. He concluded a speech which occupied two-and-a-half hours, and which was listened to by a full house with great attention, saying that the principles upon which the colonial policy of the Government was founded, were the maintenance of the free trade system to its fullest extent.

Mr. Disraeli, in the challenge of Mr. Cobden, and will elaborate, "at an early day," into a statement of "agricultural distress."

DEATH OF LORD JEFFREY.—We have to record the death of this illustrious man, which took place on Saturday evening at Brighton, on his way to his residence in Money Place, Edinburgh. On Tuesday week Lord Jeffrey discharged his ordinary duties at the Court Session. He was however some days attacked with a fever, which he could not shake off. His age was 77 years. He leaves a wife and one daughter.

DEATH OF A BOY.—On Friday, at half-past two o'clock, all that was mortal of this great man was consigned to "the house appointed for all living," in the north corner of the beautiful grounds of the Duke of Devonshire, at Brighton, where he had many days previous to his death, and where he was buried on Saturday morning. The funeral, at the desire of Mrs. J. Jeffrey, was strictly private, though attended by a large number of friends, upwards of 30 private carriages, containing all the Judges, Dean of Faculty, Sir James Gibson Craig, Professor Fildes, Dr. Simpson, Charleson, Miller, the General, General Lord, A. E. Moncrieff, Esquire, Sheriff Gordon, Bishop Teret, Professor Wilson, &c., &c.—Edinburgh paper.

DEATH OF SIR FELIX BOOTH.—Sir Felix Booth, Bart., of Brighton, died on Saturday evening, of disease of the heart. Sir Felix was a wealthy distiller, and served the office of Sheriff of London in 1828-29. He was also distinguished for his services in the expedition to the North Pole, with £200,000 to enable him to fit out his Polar Expedition.

SIR R. PALMER, Bart., who was a Lieutenant on the Staff of the British Army, and was killed in action with the American frigate Chesapeake, in 1813, died on Thursday last, in his 63d year.

A Dictionary of the Equinox Language was compiled by Captain Washington, R. N., for the use of the new expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

The Royal Cruise of 1850.—It is rumored that the intention is to go to Gibraltar in the course of the ensuing summer.

Her Majesty is maintaining a quiet routine of hospitalities at Windsor Castle, and performing her customary exercises, and, no doubt, performing her customary duties.

The London Court of Common Council, on Thursday, voted the sum of £500 to the fund for relieving out of the Sidney Hervey's plan of emigration.

Protectionist meetings continue to be held in the provinces, and are almost uniformly attended by riotous proceedings, from which we may be warned to infer the convulsive agitation into which the whole kingdom would be thrown by any legislative attempt to restore the corn-laws.

PARAGUAY TO CHINA AND BACK.—The clipper steamer "Narcissus," of the firm of Messrs. P. & O., is to sail on Saturday night, with a cargo of tea, &c., after having been absent only eight months.

AFRICI FIRE.—The most destructive fire ever remembered in the history of the island of Jamaica, occurred on Saturday night last, destroying property to the amount of upwards of £200,000, consisting of the houses, and premises of six of the largest houses in the parish, amounting to nearly 1000 acres, the estimated value of the property destroyed, was upwards of £250,000. Two other houses partially burnt, three large houses in full view, filled with mail and stores.

PRICE EDWARD OF SAZE WEIMAR has inherited the dukedom of Saxe-Weimar, and is now a prince of £200,000. She has two left hand sons, a son to his brothers and sisters.

The Countess of Arundel and Surrey, wife of the eldest son of the Duke of Devonshire, has been married to the Roman Catholic Church a few days ago.

THE PRINCE DE JOUVILLE.—The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer "Pacha" left Southampton on Monday with the family and suite of the Prince de Joville, for Lisbon, and the Princess de Joville, their family and suite.

INDIAN PRIZE MONEY.—The sum of £12,425 has been paid by the East India Company into the Bank of England, to be distributed to the claimants of the several parties entitled to share in the prize money granted for the capture of Ghaznee and Ludoon Schinde.

THE TOWN OF MANCHESTER has lately voted £450,000 for the purpose of supplying itself with water.

SMITHFIELD MARKET.—At least fifteen millions of sheep were sold at Smithfield Market, and the greater portion of it by cheque.

GREATEST DEGREE OF COLD.—On an average of years, the greatest degree of cold during the year occurs on or about the 14th of January.

The King of Prussia has sworn to sustain the Constitution, which caused a great rejoicing. The Austrian authorities in Transylvania are offering rewards for the destruction of the wolves which have come down from the Carpathian mountains into the open country during the hard weather.

The Malabar Ghoslae Song was sung at the Court of Labor, to proceed to Europe, and to perfect himself in the manufacture of beet-root sugar, a manufacturing article being about to be established in Cashmere.

GREAT WILL CASE.—Judgment was given yesterday in the Petegogue Court, Dublin, in the protracted case of Kelly versus Thewles, which involved in its decision a great part of the amount of nearly £600,000. Judge Keating's decision was that the will executed by the late Edward Kelly, of Roscommon, county of Galway, and of the County of Wick, was valid, and entitled to the probate of the Court. Each party pay their own costs.

EMERGENCY.—The Diana and Eagle, opposition steamers, left on Friday morning for Liverpool, with full cargoes, and a larger number of persons destined for America than we have ever seen, at this season of the year.—Waterford Mail.

GREAT MORTALITY.—O'Connell's funeral, from Sunday morning to one o'clock, p. m. on Monday, twenty deaths had taken place in the union work-house. We hear that the mortality chiefly existed among the recently admitted paupers. The malignity of the epidemic has, we hear, since abated.—Wexford Guardian.

The Doghda Argus says, that destination into the sea of a large number of persons driven out of their lands in Cavan, Monaghan, Meath, and Louth.

FORCE OF LIVERICE.—Since the opening of the new year, only three foreign vessels, with bread stuffs have arrived. The number of registered ships belonging to the port of Liverpool, which numbered 1188 last year, and in which between 600 and 700 men are employed. There is a decrease of £14,000 in the year's revenue, principally owing to the small amount of duty on the importation of the West India produce, and the small amount of duty on the importation of the West India produce.

CONCILIATION HILL.—The Royal Association, the annual meeting of the Royal Association took place on Monday, in Westminster Hall. The attendance was very large, and the proceedings were of an interesting nature. The object of the Association is to promote the interests of the poor, and to secure for them the most beneficial and economical mode of relief.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—At a special meeting of the Sons of Temperance, on last Wednesday evening, a resolution was adopted in favour of opening a Temperance Hall in this City, for the accommodation of several Temperance Societies. It was also resolved to apply to the Legislature for aid towards erecting the contemplated building.

Plots in France and Russia.—We have intelligence this week of two political conspiracies— one to overthrow the Government of the Emperor Nicholas in Russia, and the other to assassinate the President of France. The extraordinary coincidence in time of one placed on an equal footing with public liberty? Both plots have been detected. The Emperor of Russia obtained intelligence of the design, and a committee of inquiry being appointed, twenty-one of the ringleaders have been condemned to death. The conspirators are described as chiefly nobles or officials—young men who devoted themselves to the study of things and introducing a new era in the history of Russia. The plotters against Louis Napoleon were a portion of the insurgents of June, who, having been sentenced to transportation, fled to France in December last. The sin of ingratitude is thus added to their treason; but, in reality, the Social doctrines have spread so extensively over France, that we may look upon these conspiracies as consequences of social order and regulated freedom being effectually established. The present agricultural depression and financial difficulty in France heighten the importance of the conspiracy, and press the nation less already made, that political tranquility is only necessary to redeem, in a comparatively short time, the losses and misery of the country.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—In consequence of a renewal, last night, of riotous assemblages in the quarter St. Martin, the military were called out, and were ordered to disperse a large number of rioters, who were gathered for the purpose of celebrating the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille. The rioters were dispersed, and the night passed off well. M. Prudhomme's paper, the "Globe," has published a series of articles, all generally on leave of absence has been ordered to their posts. The "Debut" says that the semi-official explanation given by the Emperor, in his letter to the Emperor of Greece, is a very satisfactory one, and that the Emperor of Greece is to be congratulated on his wise and liberal policy.

GREECE.—The public have been startled by the news that the British fleet under Admiral Parker has appeared off the coast of Greece, bringing King Otto to account, and that this miserable potentate had been summoned to comply with the demands made by our Ministers in twenty-four hours, or that they would blockade the ports of Greece, and that the Emperor of Greece is to be congratulated on his wise and liberal policy.

PARIS, Feb. 7.—In addition to a statement that England has accepted the mediation of France in the Greek question, it is understood that the Minister of Foreign Affairs has declared in private that in a very few days that the misunderstanding between England and Greece has been amicably settled. No fear of further disturbance, and great relief placed on the energy of government.

"Orders have just been given," says the Courier Francaise, "to collect an army of observation on the frontier of Switzerland. It is said that General Schramm is to be charged with the command of this corps."

The celebrity of the days of the Empire has departed during the week. Romagnesi, the composer, who charmed the ears of the ladies of the Court of Josephine and Marie Louise, has died justly mourned. He was a native of the city of Mantua, and was distinguished by his talents as a composer whose works have obtained such immense popularity as those of Rossini.

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY.—The Russian Embassy, which has been in London for some time, is about to depart. It is said that the British Government has offered to receive the Russian Embassy, and that the Russian Government has accepted the offer.

MECHANIC INSTITUTE.—Last evening a most admirable lecture was given by Mr. J. H. Paine, of the City of London, on the subject of "The Utility of Science." The lecture was most interesting, and was attended by a large number of persons.

NEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—The want of greater Church accommodation than exists at present, has been seriously felt for some time past, the Church Wardens and Vestry have had their attention anxiously turned to the subject during the last year, and they have been endeavoring to procure the necessary means for the erection of a suitable place of worship in the Southern part of the City. Sermons were preached in the morning and evening of Sunday last, by the Rev. Messrs. Stewart and Gray respectively, in aid of the undertaking.—Telegraph.

We understand that the Vestry propose to select the site of a new church to be erected in the Southern part of the City, and that the Rev. Messrs. Stewart and Gray are to be appointed to superintend the erection of the new church.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. WILLIAM STEVENS, formerly superintendent of the York and Carlisle Mining Company's Works at Woodwick, has been appointed to the position of superintendent of the works at the new mine at Woodwick, near the town of Woodwick.

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FIRES.—On Wednesday evening, a Barn on the premises of Mr. Old Smith, near the Lonic Asylum, Carlton, with a quantity of hay in it, was totally destroyed by fire. By the active exertions of the firemen, the fire was extinguished, and the people of Carlton, Mr. Smith's dwelling being the only one damaged.

A dwelling house on the new Loch Lomond road, owned by Mr. R. Dunn, was wholly consumed by fire on the night of Sunday 17th inst. The dwelling house of Mr. John Quinlan, Lower Granville, N. S., was destroyed by fire on the night of the 6th inst, and the inmates had barely time to escape, without any other covering than their night clothes. The eldest son of Mr. Quinlan, 25 years of age, having re-entered the burning house to procure more clothing, perished in the attempt, and his body was afterwards found in the kitchen, the head and arms being entirely consumed.

A Woolen Factory and Great Mill, at Bill Town, Cornwallis, owned by Mr. Silas Bishop, and erected last spring, was destroyed by fire on the 21st ult. There was no insurance on the property, and Mr. Bishop's loss is computed at £1800. The factory contained 150 spindles, and employed six or eight persons.

The steamer "Herman" left New York on Wednesday last, for Liverpool, with 30 passengers, and the "Herman" arrived at Liverpool on Saturday last, with 30 passengers, and the "Herman" arrived at Liverpool on Saturday last, with 30 passengers.

LECTURES ON THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY.—In these stirring times, it is cheering to see that the religious interest of our men are not neglected. Of what use would it be to preach the Gospel, if man's immortal concerns were left unattended? It is to be regretted that the lectures on the history of Christianity, which were given by the Rev. J. H. Paine, of the City of London, were not attended by a larger number of persons.

VALUABLE PRESENT.—We learn that the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly has been notified, by the Hon. Mr. W. H. Paine, that he has received a valuable present from the Hon. Mr. W. H. Paine, which he has accepted with much pleasure.

THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION.—The liberal journals of England speak in terms of great praise of the constitution recently adopted by the California people. They say that it is one of the most judicious instruments of government ever devised, and that its provisions, with the exception of those which relate to the property of the State, are of the highest wisdom. The Daily News, the Spectator, and other papers comment at great length upon its various clauses. The exemption of the property of women from the control of the husband after marriage, is particularly dwelt upon as a great advance in legislation.

THE WESLEYAN METHODISTS are about to erect a college in one of the most vicarious and destitute portions of London, for the gratuitous education of the poor, in which cause they have been very active.

UNITED STATES.—RAILROAD MERRICK IN BANISH.—An adjourned meeting of the friends of the Kennebec and Penobscot Railroad was held at Bangor on the 6th inst, and was very numerously attended. It was addressed by Judge Proble, F. O. J. Smith, and John A. Post, of Portland, and by A. G. Jewell, of Bangor. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed, and our own aspect to see the great eastern line of railway take another step, which will carry it to Bangor, and ultimately to the British Provinces.—American Railway Journal.

FIRST RETURN SHIP FROM CALIFORNIA.—The ship "South Carolina," Capt. Hamilton, arrived at this port yesterday, having left Valparaiso Oct. 25, H. M. S. "South Carolina," Capt. Hamilton, arrived at this port yesterday, having left Valparaiso Oct. 25, H. M. S. "South Carolina," Capt. Hamilton, arrived at this port yesterday, having left Valparaiso Oct. 25.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 16.—A tremendous fire occurred this morning in Camp street, which consumed a large number of buildings, mostly large stores, with the Picayune office and Kolb's banking house. The loss is estimated at a fair estimate of every loss connected with the numerous accidents, such as collapsing of boilers, fuses, damages to boats, &c., and the destruction of the works of the New York and Erie Railroad, has been the subject of much interest.

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with the ability which has characterized Sir William's administration of affairs on the Gold Coast, promises to be vastly beneficial in suppressing the nefarious traffic in Africa, known all over the world as the Slave Trade.—Halifax Nova Scotia.

The Columbia steamer surveying vessel, Commodore Shaler, will, in a few days, be engaged in "mapping" out the work of last year. The return of Spring will again find them prosecuting their arduous labours in the Bay of Fundy.—B. N. Y.

CALIFORNIA AT LAST.—We learn that the favorite steamer "Herman," owned by J. H. McNeil, Esq., will positively fit out for California, at this port, and carry thither a goodly freight of the products of Nova Scotia.—B. N. Y.

The Speaker of the Nova Scotia Assembly has moved for the abolition of the Court of Chancery, and some of the papers in connection with the motion, support it. The Sun says:—He charges the court of chancery with complicity, unless formalities, engagements and delay, such as the life, the health and the patience of men, ought not to be called upon needlessly to endure.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Legislative Session was opened on Monday the 20th inst. His Excellency's speech frequently acknowledges that a bountiful Providence has, during the past season, vouchsafed an ample reward to the toils of the fisherymen, and that the results of agriculture of the colony for the past year, have more than realized the anticipations of those favourable to the experiment.—It recommends the state of Education (the education act) to be referred to the Committee on the part of the Legislature, the system being susceptible of much improvement, and hopes the Session will not be allowed to pass without the adoption of some measure that will secure a more effective supervision of the schools generally throughout the Colony.

In the Assembly on the 19th inst. Mr. Hoyle presented a Report and a Bill from the select Committee on Education, which one of the main features is the recommendation of a division of the Protestant grant, according to the number of the several denominations. The bill was read a first time, and its second reading set down for the 26th inst.

AN AGED VOTER.—At the General Election in 1845, we noticed the name of a venerable old gentleman, Alexander Anderson, Esq., of New York, who was then in his 90th year, and who was distinguished by his long life, although an extremely cold day, last week, and assigned to Mr. Pope and Mr. Conroy. He is now in his 100th year, and is in good health, and with the exception of a slight infirmity, in possession of all his faculties.—Price's Ed. Lib. Gazette.

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during the year, 1,300,000 logs, of which it exported 650,000 were exported.

Onto.—The Senate of Ohio, have, by a vote of 25 to 3, resolved that the sentiment of the freeman of Ohio is, no more Slave States, no more Slave Territory.

Mrs. Panny Kenble has refused to give readings in Louisville, alleging that "she cannot read in a return state, and will not receive for her labour money which is the price of human blood."—New England Reading Society.

The news by the steamer Canada was only thirty-three in the transmission from Halifax to New Orleans, a distance of twenty-eight hundred miles.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

The Hon. Solicitor General presented a Bill to consolidate and amend the Laws in the administration of Justice in Equity.

Hon. Mr. Simonds in anticipation of the Law Bill reported by the Hon. Solicitor General, moved to direct the attention of that hon. member to the extreme expenses attending the closing of Mortgages. This single process he said, frequently amounted to the sum of £100, and was a charge on the debtor, and thence down to thirty, when the whole service should, so far as he was able to understand it, be performed for seven pounds.

The Hon. Solicitor General replied, that one of his objects in framing the Bill, was to reduce the cost of closing a Mortgage, and that the best plan to reduce the cost was to reduce the number of parties from whom he expected much valuable information on the subject. He would not promise to bring the costs down to seven pounds, but he would endeavour to reduce them to a sum consistent with the safe administration of Justice. In ordinary cases, the cost would vary from sixteen to twenty pounds; while the lowest he had hitherto known amounted to the whole of the mortgage, and in some cases to the whole of the mortgage.

Hon. Col. H. H. Hatch stated that the average cost was about £45; and that the Hon. Solicitor General was entitled to much credit for bringing it so low. There was much labour and machinery in the process of closing a Mortgage; and to talk of £7 in such a case was utterly out of the question.

Hon. Mr. Chandler stated that the best plan to reduce the cost was to reduce the number of parties from whom he expected much valuable information on the subject. He would not promise to bring the costs down to seven pounds, but he would endeavour to reduce them to a sum consistent with the safe administration of Justice. In ordinary cases, the cost would vary from sixteen to twenty pounds; while the lowest he had hitherto known amounted to the whole of the mortgage, and in some cases to the whole of the mortgage.

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