The fire upon the hearth is low, And there is stillness everywhere; Like troubled spirits, here and there The firelight shadows fluttering go. And as the shadows round me creep, A childish treble breaks the gloom, And softly from the further room

Comes: "Now I lay me down to sleep." And, somehow, with that little prayer And that sweet treble in my ears, My thought goes back to distant years And lingers with a dear one there; And as I hear the child's amen, My mother's faith comes back to me, Crouched at her side I seem to be, And mother holds my hands again.

Oh! for an hour in that dear place! Oh! for the peace of that dear time! Oh! for that childish trust sublime! Oh! for a glimpse of mother's face! Yet, as the shadows round me creep, I do not seem to be alone -Sweet magic of that treble tone -

And "Now I lay me down to sleep." SELECT STORY.

GRINGO JOE'S STORY.

We were camping in the Dragoon Mountains in Southern Arizona, and had enjoyed great success during our fortnight's

We all lay under the whispering redwoods, resting after a hard day's tramp, worn out physically, but unwilling to lose the delightful hour around our camp-fire that we indulged ourselves in every

The half-dozen members of our little party were stretched in every conceivable shape upon our thick, gray army blankets, while Gringo Joe, our guide, superintended, making a big night-cap of delicious coffee, whose aroma even now filled the

Gringo Joe, as the Mexicans called the ranger, was a character. Herculean in form, bold and resolute in

action, a celebrated guide in these regions a keen hunter, and a terrible Indian fighter, Joe was yet different from the rough characters with whom he mingled.

Not that Gringo Joe did not use the uncouth dialect of the Southwest, follow the prevailing fashion as to dress, and fall into border ways. But there was a reserve about Joe, a re-

finement cropping out here and there, a correctness of speech at odd moments that convinced me that the ranger was, if not acting a part, at least living a life to which he was not brought up.

As the red glow of the crackling oak logs fell upon Gringo Joe's bronzed features, I could not help but be impresed

Tall, straight, powerfully built, with a deep chest that rolled out a rich, mellow voice, finely-chiseled features, brown as a berry from habitual exposure to sun and wind, a keen gray eye that could be terrible under provocation, and I fancy could melt with pity and fill with inexpressible

Add to this a finely poised head, a flowing mane of dark brown, glossy locks, and the short, fine brown beard of an artist, and you have a picture of Gringo Joe. I have often desired to learn Joe's his-

tory, but delicacy restrained me; but this night my hero looked so grand under the fire's red beams that I was impelled to

"It is your turn to tell a story to-night, Joe," I said, hoping to draw him out. The ranger's hunting stories were thrilling narratives in which we delighted, and he was always ready to entertain us.

"All right," said he, carelessly, throwing himself at length upon his blanket, and kicking an ember with his heel. "I'll tell you of a little scout I made after Ger-"No, Joe, tell us about yourself." I in-

terrupted; and the others vigorously se-

In an instant a cloud came over Gringo Joe's face, and he knitted his brows. There was a far-away look in the keen eyes, and his hand was drawn quickly across them, as if striving to drive away I saw that I had touched a tender spot,

and hastened to make amends for the pain I had caused, but the ranger interrupted me with a hasty gesture, and said, speaking slowly, with eyes cast down, as if his thoughts were delving in the past:

"No; it's all right. I don't know but it would do me good, boys, to tell you my "Maybe you won't believe it when I

tell you that once I moved in what they call society, talked straight jargon, and was proud of a college education.

"That was not so long ago either - only ten years - and yet at times it seems an age ago, and then again but yesterday. old plantation of the James river, and in | will need no seconds.

my early youth grew up among my father's

gay company, and everything that money could buy was lavished upon me, the only child, and my cousin. "My earliest companion was my cousin Anita, whose face now comes up before with comparative composure.

me the most beautiful I have ever seen. "As a child she was a vision of grace

the fondest devotion. I would have lain | poor girl. down my life for her, and she was equally "I have said that my father was wealthy.

slaves, burned the roof over our heads, proach of day. and left us well nigh penniless.

"After those terrible days the governor scraped together what remained, and by industry and hard work gradually raised | begging her forgiveness, not excusing my himself to comparative comfort. I was folly, and commended her to the man of sent to college and Anita was educated in her choice.

the best schools of the South. child, sweet, tender, and artless. I returned from college to find her grown in-

to rare and radiant womanhood. "I was madly infatuated, and Anita, after the reserve born of the long separation wore off, evinced a warm affection for away ten paces and fire.

for my future peace.

reign a queen.

the Southern capital and had the run of my pistol arm, and my weapon dropped woman takes and the manner in which breaking the leaves, and the needle is un-"My chum was Waldo Torry, a dashing young Mississippian of large fortune, who his weapon, paused a minute and turned

was spending the winter at Richmond. from the field, hesitated and came towards upon me. Father died suddenly, and I rapidly. was summoned away to the plantation. Subsequently the business of settling up while painful, was not serious, was dressed, scratching. If allowed to continue tumors nickel—an undeniable proof that the the estate called me to the North and de- and I was on a train bound for the West form, which often bleed and ulcerate, betained me three months.

distant relative in Richmond. "I longed to get back to Richmond, to and thus you see me to-day.

be by her, to see her always.

"She wrote me long weekly letters, and | me to make the woman I love happy. I I noticed, at first indifferently, and then | trust I have done so. with a feeling akin to pain, that she al-

ways had much to say about Waldo. "At length the time came when I was to return. Anita met me at the depot. be better so. Waldo accompanied her. He greeted me warmly. Anita kissed me affectionately. had never appeared so beautiful. She sang deliciously, and Waldo, all attention,

rned the pages of her music. "During the week that followed I became conscious of a vague uneasiness. I eyes snapped with a murderous fire that was seized by an awful dread. Anita was made one shudder. loving, gentle, attentive, humoring my every whim. But her eyes would sparkle like diamonds when Waldo's step echoed around him, covered his face, and left us upon the path.

to discuss the coffee alone

preciate a noble nature.

SPEED OF PIGEONS.

Ross despatched a pair of young pigeons

between the two places is 2,000 miles. An

twenty three miles in eleven minutes, and

"We had been childish lovers all our lives. When we were too young to know what we meant, we talked of the days when we should be married. But in later years the subject never cross our lips. Still my family, and all who knew us, never doubted that we were, in fact, betrothed. I believed that Anita would some day be my wife, as surely as I hoped

for future existence "It was a week after my return from the North, one glorious evening in early summer, that Anita and I were walking under the elms, when the thought occurred to me that we ought to prepare for that event I had so long cherished the

"There now remained no obstacle. Anita was mistress of her own actions, and I, although not rich, was in comfortable

"'Little girl,' said I, 'have you ever thought where you would like to live

"I felt her form tremble, and she tried to escape, but I detained her and pressed "She broke into a flood of tears, and

pegged me to desist. "'But are you not to be my own little wife?' I asked. "For fully a minute she made no anwer, and then looking up with a face

"'Yes, cousin, if you wish it.' "If I wish it! Could the girl be mad? If I wished the consummation of all

white as alabaster, she replied, in a chok-

"I was angry, and dashed sway, striding down the road in a whirlwind of pas-

"Somehow the dark handsome face of the young Mississippian came up before me, but I dismissed the thought with con-"It was an hour before I calmed my

wounded spirit and felt that I could re-"As I turned in at the gate I saw a figure reclining upon a bench.

"I stooped. It was Anita, sobbing as if her heart would break.

more, and fled to her room. "There was no sleep for me that night. Next day Anita kept her room. "That evening I stood leaning moodily

against a tree, trying to fathom the mystery of a woman's heart. "It was very dark, and I was so notice the approach of two figures.

"They were the well-known tones of Anita and Waldo.

"'Anita,' he pleaded, 'why this hange? Why this inexplicable change? But a week ago you accepted me as your affianced, and to-night you tell me it can

"The truth flashed upon me with stunning force. Anita loved the dashing Mississippian, and had plighted her troth to him, but had renounced him for my sake from a sense of duty. "Oh, the terrible blow of feeling that

one's heart's idol does not reciprocate his affection! Love me Anita most assuredly did, but only as a brother - a cousin. I saw it all now.

"The thought maddened me, and governed by an irresistible rage, I rushed forward and felled Waldo to the ground with "Anita uttered a scream, and then

turning upon me with the flerceness of a tigress, hissed: "'Coward! I hate you!' and fled to the

purposes of identification.

FRANCE.

paid at rates varying from three to twenty-

five francs a day. Embroidery in silk and

wool is especially well paid. The making

rate of from thirty, forty to forty-five cen-

paid, and so is the sewing of furs and the

THE LIVER AND THE LEGS.

"Instantly I was ashamed of myself passion had carried me away. "Waldo staggered to his feet, wild at thirty-five centimes an hour. In embroidthe insult offered him, and drawing a pistol ery no work is done in June, July and from his bosom, fired point blank at August; if skilful, the workers are often

me, but missed me. "The next instant he threw his pistol from him and said: "'I will have satisfaction; for that blow."

"'The sooner the better, 'I replied. "'Very well,' said he, in a voice times an hour. Corset makers for nine smothered with passion; 'below the hours' good work receive an average of "I am a Virginian. Was born on the south bend of the river at daylight. We four frances a day. Dressmaking is well

"'I will be there,' I answered, and making of costumes for theaters. Ready turning on my heel, strode into the house. | made clothes for export can generally be "Left alone by myself, my agony over- worked at home, and sometimes mantuathe richest men in the county. Our came me. I was in a trance for hours. makers and ready made dressmakers can

home was liberty-hall, was always full of My whole life passed before me in a pan- also take their work to their own abodes. "How long I remained in that condition I know not. By and by reason re-as- of trying on, and, if possible, must know

serted its sway, and I was able to think one foreign language. For these the salary "What had I done? Struck down my trade it appears that there is no intermisbest friend, broken poor Anita's heart, sion all the year round. Plain white sewand sweetness, the wonder of the county. ruined my own happiness, and now I was ing is not well paid, owing to the competi-

"Although I was several years the older, about to strive to take Waldo's life, and tion of the large warehouses, but articles we were constant companions. Mine was | take away all earthly happiness from the | of haute nouveaute, on the other hand, are "She could never be my wife. I could thirty and sixty francs per garment. In

not demand the sacrifice. "I walked the floor until the first gray But the war ruined us, swept away all our streaks of dawn warned me of the ap-"My mind was made up. I had de-

termined upon a great sacrifice. "I sat down and wrote Anita a note, this being dependent upon fashion.

"By that time the dawn was breaking "Ah, what a change! I had left her a and I hastened to the place of meeting. "The Mississippian was already there chafing and fuming. Blood alone could wipe out the disgrace of the blow.

"We took our positions back to back. "It was agreed that we should walk

"We stepped off together, rapidly cov-"Those were happy days—too happy ered the distance and wheeled. As I turned there was a report and a puff, and rapidity from the intestines and re-ex- annulled during the night. At times of "We were to spend the winter of '74 in a bullet sped by my head. I had decreted by the liver, that it does not pass storm its intensity augments to striking Richmond. Anita was to make her debut termined upon my course. I cared not for into the general circulation at all. in society, where we all felt she would my life, and would not fire upon my an-

tagonist. "It was a gay winter — balls, routs, par"Therefore I raised my revolver and seen that the proper distribution of the ties, riding and merry-making. I made fired into the air, as Waldo fired again. gastric juices and oils which aid digestion even if one should shelter it with an umacquaintance with the best young men of There was a sharp, stinging sensational in is dependent more upon the steps a brella. No shock is felt at the time in

"Seeing that I was hit, Torry lowered "But suddenly an awful calamity fell me, but I waved him away, and strode off

"For a few months I travelled about, coming very sore. Swayne's Ointment "Anita, by my advice, stopped with a then I gradually became less and less civi- stops the itching and bleeding, heals ullized, and at length joined the rangers, ceration, and in most cases removes the Give Johnson's Anodyne Liniment a tumors. At druggists, or by mail, for 50 fair chance, and it always "gets there" "I do not murmur. Duty called upon ents. Dr. Swanye & Son, Philadelphia. | when needed.

quantity of the food consumed.

PILES! PILES! ITCHING PILES.

FERRY MINSTRELSY.

"They are married now and have chil-Queer Characters Who Make a Living dren. He is wealthy and shines in society. by their Wits. I hope she has forgotten me. It would

Of the many curious classes of charities in the vicinity of New York city, the "But I hear from them through an agent now and then, and if the day should | ferryboat fakirs come very near being the "We passed a glorious evening. Anital ever come when Waldo Torry ceases to most interesting. To the passengers and make Anita happy, his career on earth is commuters on the numerous lines of ferries at both sides of the city they have been a source of amusement for many years. As Gringo Joe uttered his threat his

Probably the most interesting and welface assumed a terrible aspect and the gray come character on the boats is an old negro. He begins operations with the rush of traffic at 5 o'clock in the after-With only a "good night," the strange great-hearted fellow wrapped his blanket | noon.

He takes a seat in the rear of the men's cabin, and just after the boat starts he Not a word was spoken. Our thoughts walks into the passageway between the were in the far Southern home and with two cabins, and begins to whistle, very softly at first," The Mocking Bird." Withthe woman who did not know how to ap out a single break he finishes the air, a marvel of sweetness and simplicity. Then he begins it again. This time a little

louder, and with variations. The power of pigeons on the wing is Old men put down their papers and lisproverbial. All trained birds of this species ten intently, the conversation becomes have two qualifications in a marked degree The first is speed, the second, long and their seats and stand at the entrance to sustained powers of flight. This proposi- the passageway, but the old darky never stops, and all the time his wonderful exertion can be amply demonstrated, and the following are some of the most remarkable tion is becoming more and more melod-

records: - On October 6th, 1850 Sir John Finally he launches off into a series of from Assistance bay, a little west of Wellsweet toned notes, and a look of mingled ington Sound, and on October 13 a pigeon interest and admiration steals over the made its appearance at the dovecote in faces of all within hearing distance. Then Ayreshire, Scotland, whence Sir John had he drops back into the air again and the the pair taken out. The distance direct tune is finished very softly.

APPEALS TO WOMEN.

The old negro then walks to the end of instance is on record of a pigeon flying the cabin and, holding his hat out, bows another flew from Rouen to Ghent, 150 low and passes around the seats, all the miles, in an hour and a half. An interesting time whistling some lively little tune, inincident of flight is the case of a pigeon terspersed wilh melodious variations. The which,in 1845, fell wounded ane exhaustnickels,dimes and pennies rattle an accomed at Vauxhall station, then the termimus paniment to his music and his nightly of the south-western railway. It bore a collections vary from \$6 to \$12. On Sunday message to the effect that it was one of nights he can be seen on the boats running three dispatched to the Duke of Welling- from Cortlandt street, and then he selects ton from Ichaboe Island 2,000 miles away. the ladies' side of the boat. Standing under The message was immediately sent on to one of the chandeliers, with his hat in his his Grace, and by him acknowledged. In hand, he whistles "Nearer, My God, to a pigeon competition some years ago the Thee," and repeats it with variations. All winning bird flew from Ventnor to Man- of his selections on Sunday nights are chester,208 miles, at the rate of fifty miles | popular hymns, and for his sweet and an hour. As an experiment a trained soulful rendition of them he is well re-

pigeon was recently dispatched from a paid. northern newspaper office with a request Lately the attention of the passengers that it might be liberated for its return has been attracted by a deformed boy, who journey at 9.45 a.m. It reached home at works upon the different lines from early 1.10 p.m., having covered in the meantime morning until late at night. His entire 140 miles, flying at the rate of forty miles | left side is paralyzed, shortening his leg an hour. In the North pigeons have and drawing up his arm. The side of his long been used to convey messages between face is also affected. His clothing is poor

country houses and market towns, and in and scanty. Russia they are now being employed to When the boat is well out in the river convey negatives of photographs taken in the boy enters the forward door of the balloons. The first experiment of the lady's cabin and stands for a moment at kind was made from the cupala of the the threshold, apparently uncertain what Estella." cathedral of Isaac, and the subject pho- to do. Then he takes from an inside able to light, and then tied to the feet of these in his perfect hand he limps slowly the pigeons, which safely and quickly around in front of the seats, pausing a carried them to the station at Volkovo. moment before each passenger, mutely

Here is another interesting instance of asking them to buy. speed and staying power. The pigeons in His face is a picture of despair, and question flew from Bordeauv to Manches- many a dime and nickel are dropped into ter, and not only beat all existing records, his hand. Nine out of every ten passengers immersed in my thoughts that I did not but flew more than seventy miles further refuse a pencil after they have given him than anything previously attempted by alms, but if one is taken he continues his English fliers. The winning bird flew at journey holding the remaining one out for the rate of 1.879 yards a minute, or over sale. If that too happens to be taken the 46 miles an hour, and that for a distance little fellow dives down and brings out two "The young man spoke in accents of of 1421 miles. The same club has flown more from his inside pocket. The little birds distances of 613 and 625 miles. scheme succeeds admirably, and he does Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children These latter, however, were several days not dispose of more than four or five Teething. It will relieve the poor little in returning, and in their case the only pencils a day. The boy is a professional wonder is that they could accomplish the | beggar and under the eyes and training | mothers, there is no mstake about it. It distance at all. The following is still of his father. more interesting, as it entailed a race be-

tween birds and insects. A pigeon fancier of Hamme, in Westphalia, made a wager | are two brothers between the ages of 14 that a dozen bees liberated three miles and 17 years. As soon as the boat is well from their hive would reach it in better on its trip they appear at one end of the time than a dozen pigeons would reach cabin and one of them, taking of his hat,

their cot from the same distance. The says: competitors were given wing at Rhynhern, "Gentlemen, if you have not got any a village nearly a league from Hamme, objections we would like to entertain you and the first bee finished a quarter of a for a few moments. Although we make minute in advance of the first pigeon, the our living this way, we only ask for what

main body of both detachments finished you think we are worth." almost simultaneously an instant or two Both bow, and with a quick movement later. The bees, too, may be said to have the younger lad puts his foot in his brothbeen handicapped in the race, having been rolled in flour befour starting for PAY OF WOMEN FOR SEWING IN In Paris basters do not work during. January and April and are paid about

around the cabin on their hands. them, and besides they are their own history. It denotes, beauty, strength and

Another of the deserving characters is an Irish boy, who generally makes his appearance in the cabin with the follow-

"Ladies and gentlemen, if it will not bother you too much I'd like to give you The aspirant for employment in the a little exhibition of dancing. I will mantuamaker's trade must learn the art first dance you an Irish reel and jig, next a clog, next a shuffle, and last a wing dance. Please notice the different steps.' is from two to four francs a day. In this He takes a small harmonica from his pocket and, after tapping the floor with his foot, he begins his Irish jig. As he changes the music his steps and the style of dance change, and true to his word, he ends with the wing dance. It is a clever often remunerated at the rates of twenty, piece of work, for playing quick jigs is not easy, especially when one dances to his men's cravat making there is also excelown music. The boy's steps are accurate lent steady work, as well as in lace makand light, and he is frequently applauded ing and glove making. The trimmings of and well repaid for his work. bonnets, the making of bows for shoes,

umbrellas and parasols is intermittent, and THE DEATH PLANT. so is the making of trimming of all kinds, There has been discovered in the forests of India a strange plant which possesses to a very high degree astonishing magnetic powers, and which is a great source of The liver depends upon the legs for exannoyance to sportsmen and tourists. It ercise. The movement of the body keeps has been named the Philota ea electrica. the liver from becoming torpid. A torpid The hand which breaks a leaf from this liver and gastric disorders cause unsettled plant receives immediately a shock equal nerves and painful and frequent head- to that which is produced by an induction aches. All these things come from the coil. At a distance of six yards a magnetic fact that the legs and the liver are not ex- needle is affected by it, and will be deercised enough, that the various digestive ranged if brought near. The energy of juices have not been absorbed by the sys- this singular influence varies with the hour of the day. All powerful about 2 case of bile, which is absorbed with great o'clock in the afternoon, it is absolutely proportions. During rain the plant seems As the liver gets its principal power to succumb and bends its head during a from the activity of the body, it will be thunder storm.

It remains there without force or virtue, they are taken, than upon the quality and affected beside it. One never by any chance sees birds or insects alight on the electric plant; an instinct seems to warn them that they will find certain death Symptoms — Moisture; intense itching that where it grows none of the magnetic "Half an hour later my wound, which, and stinging; most at night; worse by metals are found—neither iron, cobalt nor electric force belongs exclusively to the plant.

"It takes the exception to prove the

- A CUBAN MOON. "The ugliest woman I ever saw," said the raconteur, "was a Cuban, and she was so ugly that it was really painful to look

rule," said his vis-a-vis. "Tell me about class, and it was at Havana that I first saw

her, tethered to a goat that she was herding among the stubble of the sugar cane. Her husband was a charcoal burner, and when I first saw Estella, I wondered how any man living could have married such "Love goes where it is sent," said one of the after dinner crowd.

"Yes, and the charcoal burner married

for love. But he never would have won Estella if providence had not favored him The Cubana had once been the most beautiful girl in Havana, and as good as she was beautiful. Her eyes were big, and black, her skin a glowing olive, and her hair a mass of blue-black silk. That is what an old dame told me with much Spanish lingo. Her father was a bodigero -a man who kept a wine cellar. The girl's mother was dead. One night her father went home drunker than usual and turned her out of doors --- '

"Brute," exclaimed one of the party with that quick sympathy that the sor-

rows of beauty always arouses. "She did not go to her lover, nor did she fly to the refuge of some adobe roof where she had friends. She simply pillowed her head upon upon the gary donkey, that had been her friend and playmate from childhood, where he slept gainst the tumbled-in thatched roof of the pen in the chaparral, prayed to the Black Madonna, and slept soundly like a child in the moonlight."

"And the brigands came and carried her off to their fastnesses?" suggested one

of the party. "Nothing of the kind. When her pillow, the little donkey, rolled over in the norning she arose another person. She ran into the house and her father screamed 'Sancta Maria!" and drove her out as a stranger. She had slept in the Cuban moonlight, the fairest moonlight in the world, but as deadly as the shadow of the upas tree. Her face was drawn out of all shape resembling a human being. It was the horrible, distorted mash that I saw, with the features of an imbecile. Her father drove her from him with curses, but the lover with whom she had coquetted married her at once, and they told me he had made her a good husband.

"But you will hear the Cuban mother calling her young daughter into the house balconies with its silver light and the light seems made for lovers to wonder in, for everybody there knows the story of

tographed was the winter palace. The pocket of his coat two lead pencils, sharpthe listeners said: "I don't believe in house, but there besought me to say no plates were packed in envelopes, impenetrened and provided with rubbers. Holding that theory of the moon. It makes a pretty story, but it's too romantic." leave it." said the raconteur, blowing blue rings of smoke upward, a sign that he had finished his post-prandial exercises. - Exchange.

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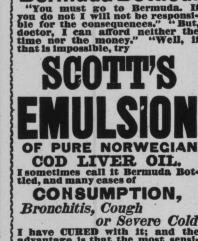
CANADA'S NATIONAL EMBLEM.

Nations are proud of their emblems. The Scotchman glories in the thistle. The Englishman boasts of the rose. The Irishman grows merry over the shamrock. er's hand and is thrown high into the air. and now the Canadian delights in his Turning a back somersault he lands on maple leaf. The other national emblems his feet on the floor. Picking himself have been immortalized in songs and in shoulders and again turns backward to Canada's is of recent origin. It was the floor. Three or four more combination adopted, in 1860, when the Prince of feats of this nature are accomplished, when Wales visited the Dominion and presented the two boys stop for a moment's rest the Hundredth regiment with their banand then go at it again. They turn for-ners. At a public meeting held for arward and backward somersaults, leap to ranging for the royal visit, the following one another's shoulders and finally walk resolution was passed: "That all native During trips where the cabin is filled Canadians joining in the procession, whether identified with the national they are roundly applauded for their work societies or not, should wear the maple and both live nicely from the collections leaf as an emblem of the land of their they make. They have at different times birth." Thus started, the custom grew filled small engagements, but they say into general favor. For over thirty years there is more money in the ferry boats for the maple stands linked with Canada's

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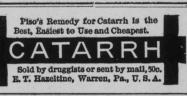
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Assets, 1st January, 1889, - \$39,722,809.59 Assets in Canada, " - 870,525.67 Fire Insurance of Every Descrip-

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At the meeting of the Farmers' Convention held in this City during the past winter, the President in the course of his remarks said that the Seeds grown by the Steele Brothers Co. of Toronto, were better adapted to the soil and climate of New Brunswick

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