

LEWISTON

EVENING JOURNAL.

LEWISTON, MAINE, MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1891.

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL, MATINEE,
AT LEWISTON POST OFFICE.

Louis Cyr, the Police Gazette's Strongest Man in the World, Accepts Strait's Challenge.

In our issue of Feb. 23d we published a challenge from M. V. Strait of New York to Louis Cyr, the strongest man in the world, in which Mr. Strait claimed the heavy weight lifting championship of the world. Mr. Cyr, who exhibits in Lyceum Hall this evening, visited the Journal office this morning and left with us the following reply to Strait:

LEWISTON, Me., March 2, 1891.

To the Editors of the Lewiston Journal:—

I have read in your paper about Mr. M. V. Strait of New York claiming the championship of the world in heavy weight lifting, and I would like to know where he takes his "championship of the world." You can take the New York Clipper annual for 1891, the official sporting record, and read it all over and you will not find any record for Mr. M. V. Strait. In this very same Clipper annual you will find all my record registered as the strongest man in the world. Where Mr. Strait gets his record God knows, I don't. Before he can claim this title he has got to meet me, no other man. I will tell you what I will do with you, Mr. M. V. Strait. I will make you a present of five hundred dollars in money and the seven hundred dollar gold championship belt that was presented to me Jan. 26, by the Athletic Club of Montreal, if you can accomplish only one of my feats of strength. Here is a good chance for you, Mr. Strait, to make money. All you will have to do, will be to not try me two hours before the exhibition and the money will be deposited all ready for you. Here is where I will be for this week: Monday in Lewiston, Tuesday in Saccarappa, Wednesday in Rochester, N. H., Thursday at Great Falls, N. H., Friday and Saturday at Salem, Mass. If you don't grab hold of this five hundred dollars and the championship belt, you had better keep your mouth shut and never speak anything more about the heavy weight championship. LOUIS CYR.

Mr. Cyr also furnishes us with the following challenge issued by Richard K. Fox, the editor and proprietor of the Police Gazette:—

Owing to the rivalry that exists in England, Australia, Germany and America among Saxon, Cyclops, Hercules, Abba, Ajax, Polydor and others, and the intense interest over feats of pulling up heavy weights, Richard K. Fox has decided to prove there is no man living who can excel Louis Cyr, the Police Gazette champion strong man, in feats of strength. In order to decide this mooted question and that Mr. Fox believes that Cyr is the modern Samson, he has agreed to put up a trophy to represent the all round heavy weight lifting championship and will also give \$500 to any of the champions of America, England, Germany or Australia who will accomplish Cyr's seven feats:—

- No. 1. Lifting 4,000 pounds of pig iron with hands and back without harness.
- No. 2. Putting up to shoulder a 225 pound dumb bell with one hand and then pushing it up to arm's length.
- No. 3. Shouldering a barrel of cement, weight 300 pounds, with one hand and without artificial means.
- No. 4. Lifting with one hand a woman hanging on a ladder, holding them on her chin in a perpendicular position.
- No. 5. Lifting with one finger a man weighing 150 pounds, a 225-pound dumb bell and a 150-pound dumb bell.
- No. 6. Lifting a 750-pound platform on which are twenty men and a 250-pound dumb bell with his back.
- No. 7. Holding out in a horizontal position a 100-pound dumb bell with one hand.

NASHUA, N. H., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1891.

AMUSEMENTS.

Louis Cyr, the strong man, lifted 3,765 pounds by his back lift last night in Lowell, and lifted his new 225 pound dumb bell. He is a whole show in himself. Of the remainder of the show the Lowell Times says:

The remainder of the company is strong. Sheppard brothers are excellent performers on the horizontal bar, Mr. and Mrs. Ayotte are good in their song and dance; Michael Murphy in forward bending and Charles English in back bending, and Prof. Ayotte in clog and reel dancing on roller skates are good. A. J. Labat is a good baritone singer.

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LEWIS

EVENING JOURNAL

LEWISTON, MAINE, TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1891.

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER
AT LEWISTON POST OFFICE.

Special—Latest U. S. Gov't Food Report.

Baking Powder PURE

THE SPORTS.

Exhibition by the Strongest Man in the World, in Lewiston.

Preparations for the Summer, in Yachting Circles.

Cyr, the Strong Man.

Louis Cyr, who holds the championship of the world as the strongest heavy-weight lifter, gave an exhibition of his almost marvelous muscle power at Lyceum Hall, Monday evening before a great and enthusiastic audience.

William Voyer, formerly of this city, but now of Manchester, N. H., presided, and in opening referred to Mr. Strait's claim of being entitled to the world's championship as made recently through the columns of the *Journal*. He said that Mr. Cyr was ready and willing to meet this Mr. Strait at any time and place, and contest with him for the championship.

He reiterated the challenge published in the *Journal* of Monday evening by Mr. Cyr, and the challenge by Richard K. Fox, editor and proprietor of the *Police Gazette*, also made in the same issue of the *Journal*. His remarks, which were made in both French and English, created much enthusiasm.

Louis Cyr was then presented and proceeded to shoulder with one hand a barrel of flour with as much ease as a common man would throw an umbrella over his shoulder. After toying with the barrel he gave as his next performance the equilibrist act with Mrs. Cyr, in which he balances her clinging to a ladder supported upon his chin. He walked about the platform with Mrs. Cyr upon the ladder, who seemed entirely unconcerned and to feel perfectly safe and secure, balanced upon the chin of her husband.

Then with one finger Mr. Cyr lifted two great dumb bells, with a man weighing 160 pounds upon them, the total weight of the entire mass being 316 pounds. He raised the bells and man a distance of about two feet clear from the floor. He accomplished this wonderful feat with the index finger of his right hand, and entirely and solely unaided by any other means.

A cannon-ball weighing 35 pounds was next brought on to the stand, and Mr. Cyr played with it as easily and lightly as a boy does with a small baseball. He tossed it high in the air, catching it upon the muscles of his arms as it came down. He rolled it around his shoulders and neck and seemed to enjoy playing with it as keenly as a child would.

After some feats of light balancing, Mr. Cyr showed his abilities as a high jumper, making a standing high jump in the air of about four feet and following it by several others fully as high.

Mr. Cyr then performed his greatest feat of the evening. By his famous upward back lift he heisted into the air upon a platform weighing 261 pounds twenty men, whose combined weight with that of the platform upon which they stood aggregated 3790 pounds. This exhibition of mighty strength was greeted with tremendous applause and as it concluded the entertainment of the evening a large proportion of the audience made a rush for the platform to see and to grasp the hand of the champion.

Mr. Cyr weighs 315 pounds and stands five feet ten inches. He is accompanied by a troupe which does some fine work in tumbling, balancing and horizontal bar performances. The exhibition of strength was one of the most satisfactory showings ever made and the spectators seemed fully convinced of Mr. Cyr's title to the beautiful gold championship belt which he wore on the stage and which won universal admiration.

He held a brief reception after the performance, at the Hotel Rockingham, and met many admirers. He and his company left to go this morning for Sarcastoga, where he exhibits tomorrow, and to-night will see him back in New Hampshire, where he shows at Rochester.

The 36 Foot...

Ally





[Photographed for the POLICE NEWS by John Wood, 208 Bowery, New York City.]

LOUIS CYR,
CANADA'S CHAMPION STRONG MAN OF AMERICA.

DECEMBER 1888.

LOUIS CYR.

The Strong Man of Canada, Challenger of America.

[With Portrait.]

Louis Cyr, otherwise known as "The Strong Man of Canada," is a giant in weight and strength. He is only 26 years of age, but he stands 6 feet 10½ inches in height, and weighs 323 pounds. He holds the undisputed weight-lifting championship of Canada, and several world's records for dumb-bell putting and weight-lifting. His last match for the Canadian championship occurred at St. Henri, near Montreal, Nov. 2, 1888, when he competed against Barre in feats of strength. At that time he put up a dumb-bell weighing 265 pounds, raising it from the ground to the shoulder and pushed it to arm's length above with one hand. This is the world's record, the nearest approach to it being 245 pounds, put up by F. Staehr, in Vienna, Austria, Dec. 4, 1885. In this same match with Barre, in which he was victorious, Cyr lifted a platform weighing 140 pounds, upon which were seven dumb-bells, weighing 78 pounds, a barrel of flour weighing 218 pounds and seven men, who made up the total weight to 2328 pounds. Cyr put his arms around the platform and lifted this enormous weight with ease. Directly following this he lifted two dumb-bells, tied together with a cord, weighing 440 or 450 pounds, with one finger. Last December he is credited with having lifted 3062 pounds in an exhibition in Manchester, N. H. On Oct. 1, 1888, at Berthierville, Can., Cyr lifted 3536 pounds of pig iron placed upon a plank which rested upon trestles. He did this by getting beneath the plank and pushing up with back, arms and legs until the weight was clear of the trestles. Cyr is prepared to perform feats of strength with Samson, Sandow, Cyclops, Apollo, or any of the strong men now in London, Eng., for any amount of money.

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THE NATION

POLICE GAZETTE

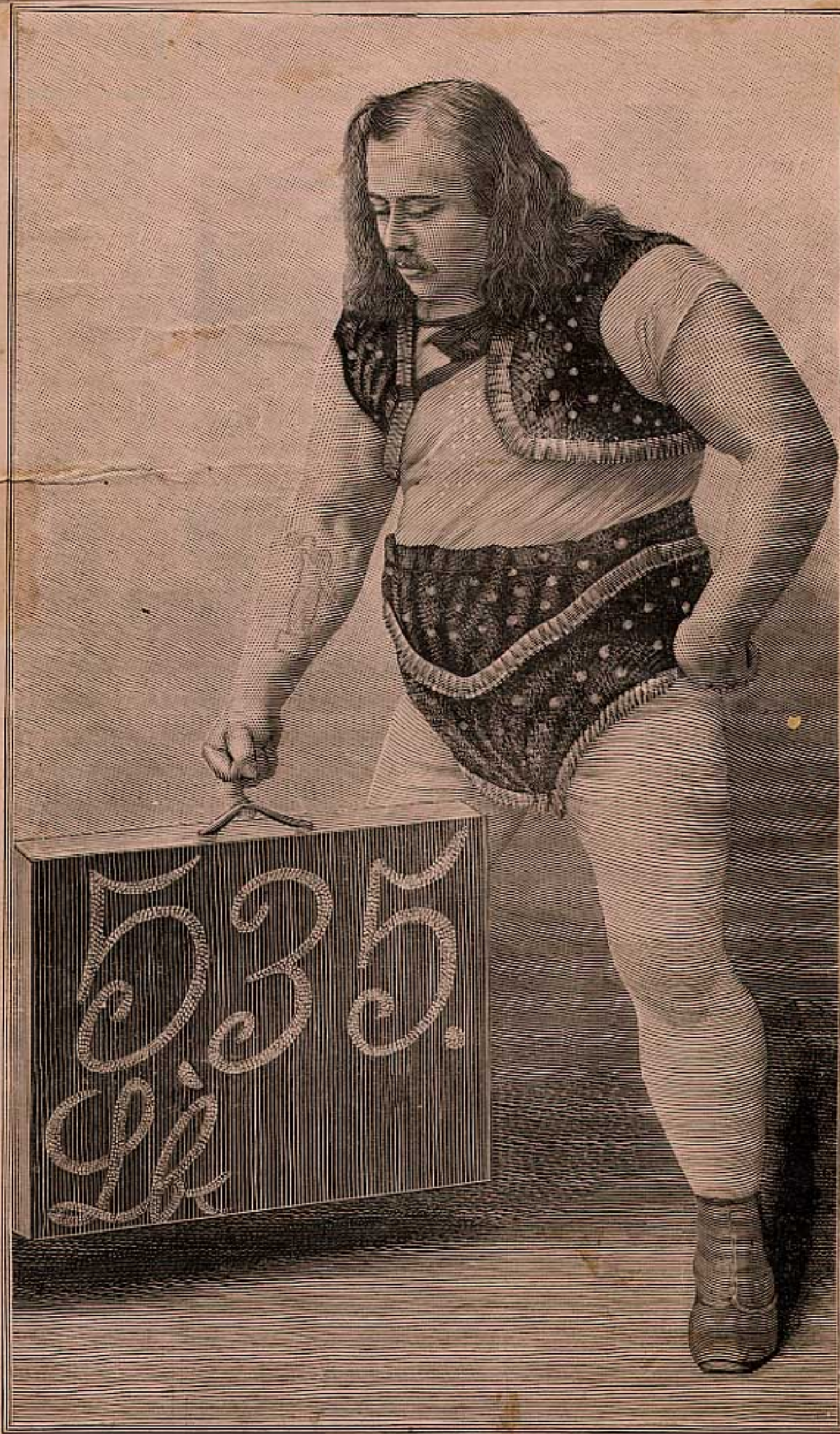
THE LEADING ILLUSTRATED SPORTING JOURNAL IN AMERICA.

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RICHARD K. FOX,
Editor and Proprietor.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1891.

VOLUME LVIII.—No. 711.
Price Ten Cents.



CAN BEAT THE WORLD.

LOUIS CYR, THE "POLICE GAZETTE" CHAMPION STRONG MAN, WHOSE MARVELOUS EXHIBITIONS OF HERCULEAN POWER HAVE MADE HIM FAMOUS THE WORLD OVER.

CAN BEAT THE WORLD.

(WITH PORTRAIT.)
The portrait of Louis Cyr, the "Police Gazette" champion strong man, is reproduced on our sporting page. Cyr is a modern Samson, and his marvelous exhibitions of strength have interested the readers of this journal for some time past.

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Université du Québec à Montréal.

SATURDAY GLOBE.

UTICA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1890.

SPORTING.

LOUIS CYR, LOWER CANADA'S MODERN SAMSON.

Will the American Association Go Down?—Base Ball Notes—The Ring—Jake Schaefer—Miscellaneous Items.

A WELL-KNOWN sporting man in New York has a dumb-bell which weighs 1,000 pounds and which cost \$500, that he will present to the first man who will lift it. Last week several strong men made attempts to lift it, but failed. There is a man in Lower Canada who claims to be the strongest man in the world, and if all the stories are half true of his wonderful feats of strength there is no doubt but that he will capture



LOUIS CYR, AMERICA'S STRONGEST MAN.

the big dumb-bell. The name of this modern Samson is Louis Cyr, a native of St. Helaine, Canada. He is about 25 years of age and weighs 304 pounds. He first came to the notice of the public as a strong man in Montreal, May 26, 1886, when he defeated Louis Mischeau and Gus Lambert for the championship of Canada, by making the enormous lift of 2,550 lbs. without harness, and has since that time beaten all records. Some of his most wonderful feats are shouldering a barrel of flour with one hand, juggling cannon balls weighing 100, 75 and 50 lbs., putting up a 250-lb. dumb-bell from shoulder to arms length, steady push. His latest achievement was in Manchester, N. H., where he lifted 25 men on a platform. Since he won the championship in 1886, he has improved greatly, being now able to lift from 3,000 to 3,500 lbs. Mr. Cyr offers \$1,000 to any man who will perform any of his feats.

BASE BALL

THE NATIONAL POLICE GAZETTE: NEW YORK. JAN. 25, 1890.

STRONG MEN IN CANADA.

Canada has its strong men as well as England. At Montreal two athletes, Louis Cyr and Horace Barre, have recently been exhibiting the following feats of strength. Upon being introduced both were weighed.

Cyr weighed 285 pounds and Barre 224 pounds. Then the dumbbells to be used were weighed. One monster weighed 262 pounds; the others ranged down in the following order: 195, 150, 97, 75 and 54 pounds.

Barre first made his bow and tackled the 195-pound dumbbell. He got it over his shoulder in good shape. Cyr did not take this bell, but grabbed the big one which weighed 262 pounds.

It was a terrible struggle; every muscle stood out and the veins seemed ready to burst. The bell was pulled up to the hip, then raised to the shoulder, and finally pushed above the head. Barre tested this weight and found that he could not manage it.

Then the back lifting was begun. A heavy iron-bound platform, which itself weighed 140 pounds, was put on two trestles. On top of the platform was put the six dumbbells, whose aggregate weight was 728 pounds, then a barrel of flour weighing 215 pounds was added.

This was easily lifted by both men, who got under the platform and raised it completely over the trestles with their backs. Live weight in the shape of volunteers from the audience was next piled on top.

When the weight reached 1,316 pounds Barre stopped. Cyr, however, kept on until seven men had been added and the aggregate weight was 2,275 pounds, which he succeeded in lifting.

N. Cyr

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