

Deo adjuvanti non timindin (With God's help, we need not fear)

THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NEWS



Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962
Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV)

www.scvcamp1962.org



Editor: Lady Sharon Red, Cell 618-622-8949

APRIL 2021

**Celebrate post-Easter and spring
and come to the next**

**CAMP MEETING – APRIL 13, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Shiloh Assembly of God Church in Shiloh**

*(To protect yourself and others at the meeting,
please wear a mask or face covering)*

REMEMBER TO
VOTE!

Tuesday
APRIL 6

PROGRAM INFORMATION

PRESENTATION: *The Dent Family Association*
(continuation of last briefing – do bring previous handout)
PRESENTER: *Compatriot Jim Lumma*
REFRESHMENTS: *Chaplain Mike & Lady Mary Biekert*

CAMP MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are generally, except as announced, held on the second Tuesday evening each month at 6:30 p.m. at the:

Shiloh Assembly of God Church
4035 Lebanon Avenue
Shiloh, Illinois 62221

(Parking lot available next to the church)

We try to have an informative program with a speaker or film of interest at all meetings. Anyone with a Confederate ancestor or just having an interest in Civil War history is invited to attend.

Questions? Call Gale Red, Cell 618-622-8949

CAMP MISSION

The camp accepts its covenanted responsibility to maintain and preserve the Christian principles held by the Southern people that led them to their decision to defend the right of constitutional self-government. We strive to educate ourselves first and then the public to a fuller and more complete understanding of the true history of the period of the War Between the States. We seek to preserve the memory and honor of the noble Confederate soldiers, sailors, public servants, and loyal citizens.

CAMP MEMBERSHIP

Is available to all male (12 years or older) descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate military. Direct or collateral kinship to a qualifying veteran or civil servant must be documented for full membership. We offer genealogical assistance with documentation. For those who have not yet proven their kinship or just have an active interest in what we are doing, we offer camp membership through our auxiliary, the Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle. Applicants must be 12 or older.



WE CARE! PLEASE CALL GALE OR MIKE AND KEEP US NEWS-INFORMED ... if you or a family member is ill, has an emergency, health or family issue, or needs assistance.

Adjutant Gale Red, Cell 618-622-8949

Chaplain Mike Biekert, 618-972-8190

FROM THE COMMANDER

Greetings to each and every member of the Lt. George E. Dixon SCV Camp #1962. The month of April marks a significant calendar event in both the Jewish and Christian traditions of belief. The officers of your camp hope and pray that each of our families stand united in our devotions unto our GOD. Pray that each of you remain steadfast in the teaching of this our faith unto your children and grandchildren. It is for this reason alone that our nation stands at such a perilous zeitgeist. The failure to properly pass the torch of our Christian faith unto the next generation has been a serious defect in the western world since the conclusion of the second world war. During the war of the states as to the right of secession, there had been a decline in the moral and religious life of the people of our nation. The conflict served as a catalyst for a spiritual renewal in the ranks of our confederate ancestors. When soldiers came face to face with "seeing the elephant" and their mortality delved into a very realistic possibility of death at such cost, their situation became fertile ground for the army chaplain's gospel message. Revival broke out amidst all southern ranks and serious conversions were the norm. A shortage of chaplains created the recruitment of pastors from the slave class of the southern states. In times such as this, men inclined to hear the word of GOD no matter what the color of the messenger's skin was. Many negro slave chaplains held a revered status in the ranks of southern men standing at the precipice of an eternal judgment. Pray that we stand as faithful in the time ordained unto us all, akin to the examples of our forefathers. GOD Bless

*Confederately,
John Stanton*



All across the waking earth, we
see beautiful nature with
perfection

Retelling the Easter story of His
death and resurrection.

An empty tomb –
a stone rolled away

We praise the Savior who rose
for us on Easter Day.

Let not your heart be troubled
Let not your soul be sad

Easter is a time of joy
When all hearts should be glad.

**HAPPY EASTER TO YOU
AND YOUR FAMILY**

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ MARCH 9, 2021 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly muster at 6:42 p.m. on March 9, 2021 at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church, Shiloh IL; this being the 3rd Muster of the year 2021.

CALL TO ORDER: Commander John Stanton called the meeting to order.

WELCOME: Commander Stanton welcomed the Camp's members, family, and friends.

INVOCATION: Chaplain Mike Biekert.

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS (Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to Confederate Flag): The American Flag was properly displayed. 1st Lt Commander Matt King led everyone in attendance to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and the salute to the Confederate Flag.

SWEARING IN: None.

OTHER PROCEDURAL BUSINESS: None.

ROLL CALL (22) (Adjutant Red). *Please ensure everyone has signed the muster roll.*

Those present included: Janice Beasley, Walter "Mike" Biekert, Eric Funkhouser, Johnny Kicklighter, Matt King, Ron & Alexis Lakin (guest), Doug & Betty Lawrence, Jim & Barb Lumma, John & Jane McKee, Andy & Jane Novara, Gale & Sharon Red, John Stanton, Phil Tate, and Drew, Nick & Steve Wilson.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2021 MEETING MINUTES (Adjutant Red). The minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Drew Wilson and seconded by John McKee with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Adjutant Red). Reported the financial report of \$5,350.48. No outstanding checks. I got behind a year and just filed our 2019 tax return for our 501C tax exempt status. In six months, will file our 2020 return. The report was approved by a motion to accept by John McKee and seconded by Steve Wilson with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) (Row 1) Alexis Lakin and R. Lee

(Row 2) Gale Red, Eric Funkhouser, Jim & Barb Lumma, Jane McKee, Ron Lakin, Janice Beasley with R.Lee, Matt King, Jane & Andy Novara, and Betty Lawrence holding Zoe McKee

(Row 3) Nick Wilson, Drew Wilson, Steve Wilson, Mike Biekert, and John Stanton

(Last Row) Doug Lawrence, Phil Tate, and John McKee

Photographer: Sharon Red

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ MARCH 9, 2021 Muster (cont'd)

COMMUNICATIONS

(Adjutant Red) ANYONE AWARE IF SOMEONE IN THE CAMP IS SICK OR NEEDS ASSISTANCE? Please notify us so we can remember and help them.

NEW BUSINESS

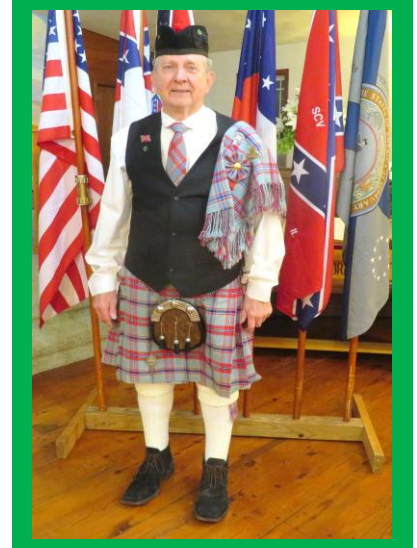
FOR USE OF CHURCH POWER (Commander Stanton). Please put a dollar or two in the hat on the refreshments table. Thanks. *(Collected \$30 and gave Mike Biekert \$20 leaving \$10 on hold)*

CANNON SHOOT DAY STILL PLANNED AT JANICE'S HOME, JULY 18 (SUNDAY) (Steve Wilson). Will coordinate with Janice and Bob Herr. Janice has said we can bring our guns/muskets – she has targets in place. Time/details to follow. Tentative plan: bring a covered dish and your lawn chair.

NEW WORLD OF ORDER (Commander Stanton). Your dollar will only be worth 20 cents.

- (Adjutant Red) Biden and the leaders of his administration are seeking ways to confiscate peoples home and property for the incoming immigrants. Governor Pritzker already has the emergency authority to seize your property and you have no say. Keep up with the news. Depressing. Be prepared.

IN CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY, HERE'S A GENTLEMAN WEARING HIS CONFEDERATE KILT. Gale inherited the outfit from a former member, Ron Doran, and was proud to show his Irish spirit in Ron's honor. Good lookin' Gale!



Gale Red



Doug & Betty Lawrence

REFRESHMENTS: Doug and Betty Lawrence brought wonderful hot taco soup, sub-sandwiches, St. Patty's Day cookies, and beverages. Thanks, Doug and Betty, for taking such good care of us.

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ MARCH 9, 2021 Muster (cont'd)

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION The Canadian Front During the Civil War by Asst Adjutant John McKee

While the relevance of Canada in the American Civil War is little known or understood, and while not a direct participant, that country had minor influence on the course of the war, but was more affected by the war. The presentation covered the background of the relationship between the United States and Canada prior to 1861, British policies regarding neutrality, US policies and responses, CS initiatives and operations, and the effects on the war on all concerned. What is called Canada today was understood as British North America back then. Canada itself, divided between Canada East (Quebec) and Canada West (Ontario), was among other colonies (or provinces) which included Prince Edward Isle, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, British Columbia, and Vancouver Island. However, the largest control of territory was under the Hudson Bay Company which consisted of Prince Rupert's Land and the Northwest Territory, which divided the eastern colonies from the western ones. All colonies reported directly to the authorities in London. Attitudes toward the United States varied by region, ethnicity and trade. Those in the maritime provinces were descended from Tories who left America after the Revolution and despised the Yankees, while those in the interior favored abolitionism and trade with the United States. Many viewed republicanism with suspicion and believed the US was bound to break down or break apart. While the South was the largest exporter of cotton, the US was the largest exporter of foodstuffs to Europe. This was one of several advantages the US government used to negotiate non-recognition of the Confederate States.

While British policy was for strict neutrality, their laws had several loopholes which enabled Confederate agents to secure material support for the Cause. US activities included threatening embargo against countries that recognized the Confederate government and declare any privateers as pirates. However, by declaring a blockade rather than "closing" the ports to commerce, the US had essentially made arguments of the war being an internal matter arguable.

Confederate operations through 1864 was to use Canada as a place of exile for family members to remain safe from Union confinement, conduct propaganda openly, a place of refuge for escapees, and a port and place to secure supplies for running the blockade. By 1864, the Confederate government decided to conduct clandestine operations and raids. While Canada would not necessarily be brought in as a participant, they would use it as a sanctuary to launch attacks and retreat. Several plots were hatched to cause general panic and dissatisfaction with the Federal government in the run-up to the Presidential election of 1864. One plot was to create a confederacy of northwest states (KY, OH, IN and IL) to secede to form their own nation. In conjunction, prisoners would be released from Camp Douglas in Chicago, IL, to rise up, arm themselves, and conduct a guerilla campaign behind enemy lines, liberate other camps to bring men back south to serve again, panic the population. Other plots were contemplated for similar operations in the Northeast, but vigilance by Union authorities manage to keep the actions from happening. Mass arrest of those involved in the Northwest Conspiracy ensured that any uprising would not happen.

Four plots were planned for the seizure of the USS *Michigan* and liberate prisoners from Johnson's Island. The first attempt was cancelled by President Davis to avoid neutrality violations, while the second attempt was halted when the Canadian Governor-General informed US authorities of the plot. The third plot came closest to being implemented, but was called off when the recognition signal was not given to Beall and his raiders. Fortunately for him, they avoided the Union warship that was waiting for them to attack. The final attempt included the purchase of a steam vessel, and over the winter of 1864-65, was to be outfitted with the weapons to carry out the plan. However, Canadian authorities were informed by a former Confederate spy about the plot, and they arrested some of the men involved and seized the ship. While the Union authorities successfully laid claim to the vessel after the war, several men were indicted for neutrality violations, but charges were dismissed in October 1865.

Operations were also conducted at sea around the Maritime provinces. The seizure of the SS *Chesapeake* was carried out mostly by Canadians recruited for the venture. Lt John Taylor Wood in command of the CSS Tallahassee would seize 33 vessels in 19 days. The port of Halifax would serve as the hub of operations for these and other maritime actions.

Some actions were meant as retaliation for Union depredations in the South. One involved large-scale arson in New York City after the 1864 elections. The plot failed to produce the conflagrations, and one of the men was captured months later and executed. Beall was also captured for an attempt to derail a train to free prisoners. He, too, was executed as that train also carried civilians. Finally, one successful venture was the raid on St. Albans, VT, where three banks were robbed and the raiders made off with \$208,000. While captured and tried, they were acquitted.

The war had various implications for both countries. In response to neutrality transgressions that were included in the *Alabama* Claims, the US abrogated its trade treaty with Canada. Irish revolutionaries banded together to conduct the so-called Fenian raids into Canada in 1866 and 1871. The US moved to limit movement of men and confiscated any arms. But the larger effect was on Canada itself.

For nearly a decade, the various provinces were debating unification. A few provinces contemplated annexation by the United States. However, the fear of US invasion, as reprisal, worked to move them in the direction of confederation, which was realized in 1867. Not all joined at once, and the last province, Newfoundland, did not join until 1949! By then, Canada was able to lay its transcontinental railroad, and develop its economy to be a net exporter of agricultural and industrial products. Its Federal government held more power relative to its provinces than did the US government relative to its states, and had a written constitution (while the British did not have one) while retaining the British monarch as head of state.

However, Sir John A. McDonald, who became the first prime minister of the new nation of Canada, had stated in his toast to colonial union in 1864, "yet what a brave fight [the Confederates] made."

NEW CAMP SGT OF ARMS AND ASSISTANT SGT OF ARMS (Adjutant Red). Steve Wilson has accepted the position, and Eric Funkhouser has accepted being the assistant. Thank you, gentlemen. (They will be sworn in at the next meeting.)

MUSIC SING-ALONG (Steve Wilson). Steve with his faithful ukulele (and songster, Mike Biekert) led everyone in singing Dixie.

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Biekert delivered the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church

- **Presenter:** Compatriot Jim Lumma
- **Program:** The Dent Family Association
- **Refreshments:** Chaplain Mike & Lady Mary Biekert

Respectfully submitted,

Gale F. Red
Adjutant



John McKee



Steve Wilson and Mike Biekert

Guest Article by Out of Area Member, Compatriot Talley Bailey

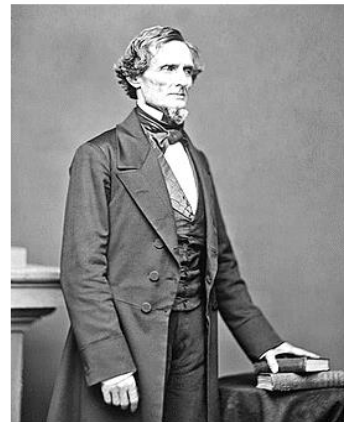
Talley Bailey has been a loyal camp member for many years. He lives “behind enemy lines” in Chepachet, Rhode Island, and has been spending a couple months of his spare retired time vacationing in Sarasota, Florida enjoying the beach (his off-season office) and sweltering in 80 plus degree temps while we have been freezing here in Illinois. He has worked for many years researching President Jefferson Davis and those who served him as his house servants, aids and friends from before the war until after President Davis died. I think you will find his article updating his project to be very interesting. Enjoy!

Gale Red



TALLEY BAILEY

Jefferson Davis



President of the Confederate States

As a member of SCV Camp 1962 for some years I have continued my quest for finding out more information on those staff members who remained extremely loyal to President Davis all of his life and beyond. Ellen Barnes was the nurse to Davis' kids and was captured with the Davis party in May 1865. She stayed with the Davis family as they were moved to Ft Monroe and it was there that Ellen remarried Frederick McGinnis in 1867 at the chapel on Ft Monroe VA. Frederick would become the caregiver of President Davis and remained a loyal family friend after Davis' release.

The McGinnis family would move to Baltimore Maryland and Ellen died in 1890 and Frederick was killed by a L&N train years later while walking home from a church service. Both are buried in the Laurel Cemetery in Baltimore which was in 1958 bulldozed down to build a shopping center. A current movement is underway to build a plaque to memorialize this black cemetery. Frederick attended the reburial of Davis and walked in many of the stops of the train that carried Davis' body to the final resting place in Richmond Va.

Robert Brown, a very loyal staff member, who was employed by Davis from 1861 prior to working at the White House of the Confederacy, was also captured in Georgia with Davis. Robert attended the burial and reburial of Davis. In May 1893 he was living in Mobile Co., Alabama in the community of Coden. My research also shows that Brown was alive in this area in 1916. A Mobile AL UDC chapter and local volunteer fire company staff are helping me locate his grave. I ask for anyone who might know of resources in this southern Alabama area for help in putting more boots on the ground.

My last focus of loyal Davis supporters is James Henry Jones who was his confidant and coachman. Jones was trusted with the great seal of the Confederacy at the time of the flight from Richmond and went to his grave without telling where it was hidden. James worked at the White House of the Confederacy and never he learned to read or write. However, he raised two sons that were a medical doctor and an attorney. All of the Jones family are buried in a Washington D C cemetery named Woodlawn. A profile for each member of the Jones family has been created on the Find-a-Grave website. The only known granddaughter of James was a D. C. schoolteacher and died in 2008.

Talley Bailey

The Clingman Raid - A Civil War Mystery

Part of Our Illinois History



Gen. Thomas L. Clingman



Posted: Monday, April 21, 2014 12:01 am by Tom Emery

Many of the key events in Civil War history are well-documented. However, the Clingman Raid, which threw central Illinois into an uproar in the summer of 1864, is shrouded in mystery.

That June, the counties of Montgomery, Fayette, and Bond were terrorized by a series of crimes, including beatings and robberies of weapons, money and horses. Adding to the fears were rumors that the perpetrators were a band of Confederate renegades who were camped in remote areas along the Fayette and Montgomery County lines.

The band was supposedly under a rebel officer named Thomas Clingman, and the Illinois State Journal reported that his men were from Missouri or Arkansas. Although there was no proof of any existence of greycoats in Illinois, newspapers statewide joined in shrill reports of the "scoundrels." A Hillsboro paper claimed that "the village of Ramsey...has literally been sacked and the inhabitants have mostly fled."

After much debate, the citizens of Hillsboro sent Robert Davis, a leading attorney, to find the raiders and demand their exit. Interestingly, Davis was a known anti-war advocate. His efforts proved fruitless, and military authorities in Springfield were contacted for help. However, they concluded that the problems were a civil matter, not a military one.

A writ was then issued to arrest Clingman and his raiders, but the sheriff did not serve it, claiming the task was impossible. As the sheriff was a Democrat, this also raised eyebrows. On July 29, a local constable then organized a vigilante group, which attracted over three hundred volunteers from Hillsboro as well as men from Litchfield, Bond, and Fayette counties. David Sparks, a former captain in the Third Illinois Cavalry, was named colonel of the group, which set off from Hillsboro in searing heat for the reputed Clingman campsite.

They found the camps deserted, but with evidence of a quick escape. Two brief firefights south of Van Burensburg ensued, the second of which wounded two vigilantes, including the mayor of Litchfield. The home guards actually posed more threat to themselves, as four men were wounded in separate accidental shootings.

No other trace of Clingman's men were found. However, some citizens named in the arrest warrant turned themselves in, and seventeen were later indicted on charges of "adhering to the enemies of the United States." Davis himself posted bond for the accused, who never came to trial. But crimes continued, as three more thefts were reported in early August. One victim was a Union captain on furlough.

Military help was again sought and the 41st Illinois was ordered in, but the troopers found only controversy, not Clingman. In their only activity, men of the regiment, while attempting to "borrow" a saddle, shot and killed a 68-year-old veteran of the War of 1812 and his wife when the older man brandished a shotgun.

Crimes continued through the summer, but in late August reports surfaced that the raiders were spotted heading north from the Vandalia area, allegedly on their way to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. On Aug. 26, they were reportedly seen in Bloomington dressed in gray and butternut clothing. Rumors were then swirling in Chicago of a plot to break Confederates out of Camp Douglas. This "Northwest Conspiracy" and a rumored plot to disrupt the November election did not come to pass, although Colonel B. J. Sweet, the commandant of Camp Douglas, reported subsequent arrests that included members of the Clingman force.

Recent research from Clingman's home state of North Carolina strongly disputes the notion that he was in Illinois at the time, and scholars have been unable to uncover any hard evidence that Confederate raiders were, in fact, patrolling central Illinois in the summer of 1864. But the Clingman Raid remains a part of the lore of the Civil War in Illinois.

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and researcher from Carlinville. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.

	Camp Dixon Presentations 2021	
Date of Camp Meeting	Title	Speaker
January 12	Civil War Quiz	Gale Red
February 9	Book Review of The Widow of the South	Sharon Red
March 9	The Canadian Front During the Civil War	John McKee
April 13	The Dent Family Association	Jim Lumma
May 11	3 Battles W. R. Moore	Mike Biekert
June 8	Bugle Calls Music	Drew Wilson
July 13	Potpourri Quiz “This and That”	Gale Red
August 10	Andrew Tucker at Stones River Battle	Steve Wilson
September 14	Fans in the Civil War	Jane McKee
October 12	TBD	John McKee
November 9	The Real Lincoln (Video)	Ron Lakin
December 14	TBD	Mary Biekert



	Camp Dixon Refreshments 2021
Date of Camp Meeting	Name
January 12	Mike & Mary Biekert
February 9	Phil Tate
March 9	Doug & Betty Lawrence
April 13	Mike & Mary Biekert
May 11	John Stanton
June 8	Phil Tate
July 13	Drew Wilson
August 10	Mike & Mary Biekert
September 14	Janice Beasley
October 12	John & Jane McKee
November 9	Matt King
December 14	Steve Wilson

News From Around the Camp



**APRIL 27
CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO
KNIGHT DOUG & LADY BETTY LAWRENCE
(Keyesport IL)
41st WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**May all your happy memories and all the dreams you share
combine to make a perfect day for a very loving pair.**

(The camp will send a congratulatory card.)

CAMP 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



APRIL

2 Good Friday
4 EASTER
6 Election Day (Please remember to vote)
13 6:30 CAMP MEETING
30 Arbor Day

MAY

8 V-E Day (1945)
9 Mother's Day
11 6:30 CAMP MEETING
15 Armed Forces Day
31 Memorial Day

JUNE

8 D Day (1944)
8 6:30 CAMP MEETING
14 Flag Day
14 U. S. Army Birthday (1775)
20 Father's Day
21 First Day of Summer



APRIL

1 J. C. GIDEON (Belleville IL)
2 NATHAN ZIEBOLD (St. Louis MO)
5 DOUG LAWRENCE (Keyesport IL)
7 JOHN KRUSE (East Setauket NY)
10 CHRIS ZIEBOLD (Chesterfield MO)
17 DON YOUNG (Advance MO)
25 CHARLES LEE (Mascoutah IL)
28 JOHN McKEE (Shiloh IL)



CAMP DIXON STAFF

Commander
1st Lt Commander
2nd Lt Commander
Advisor to the Commander
Adjutant
Asst Adjutant
Chaplain
Program Chairman
Newsletter Editor/Cardmaster
Sgt of Arms
Asst Sgt of Arms
Door Greeter

John Douglas Stanton
Matthew James King
Ronald Joseph Lakin
John Wayne Kicklighter
Gale Franklin Red
John Mitchell McKee
Walter Michael Biekert
Gale Franklin Red
Sharon Marie Red
Stephen Dean Wilson
Eric Jan Funkhouser
VACANT

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Cell 618-420-6358
618-257-9079
Cell 618-622-8949
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Cell 618-622-8949
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