

CLOWNS WITH THE CIRCUS.

Some Are Heroes Even in the Dressing Room—Teaching the Circus School.

The clown who now approaches with the circus, is a hero in the circus as well as out of it—to the circus boy, at any rate. When the circus was at Madison Square Garden last year, says the New York Post, there was a circus leader of tender years—not more than eight—with it. His father and mother were riders; and, in certain states, where the law permits it, the child had a part in the act. Dressed in spangly and white flashings, he rode a white horse bareback; he leaped through hoops, and he was hoisted to the shoulders of his father and so carried at a mad pace around the ring. This was all a pleasure to him; but it was his ambition to be a clown.

He was not permitted to appear in Madison Square Garden, the Gerry, society agents were too formidable. And this distressed him very much, as appeared one night in the dressing-room, when his father and mother were in the ring, and he could hear the applause, rising muffled to where he was. He turned "flip-flaps" and "hand-springs" for awhile; but one of the operators put a stop to this distraction with: "Here, Johnnie, quit that! You'll sprain your ankle doing that on this hard floor." The child stopped without a word, and sat down on a trunk, where he sighed, and fell into deep thought. "Tenny for your thoughts," was said to him.

He wanted the penny, so he spoke up quickly. "I was thinking I wished I was a clown. I'm going to be a clown when I grow up." "What do you want to be a clown for? Isn't riding good enough for you?" "The clown gets more hands (applause)," the child answered, knowingly. "There's more fun in it, too. I'm not going to be a rider. I'm going to be a clown." He had, indeed, been practicing the "flip-flaps" with that ambition; and now the circus people say that he continued to do so all season long, and to spend odd moments on the parallel bars between the afternoon and evening performances. A clown, as everybody knows, must be cleverer than at everything than anybody else.

There are half a dozen or more children with very large circus, and they have no opportunity to get an education save in the winter time—some of them have no chance then. The circus school is something of a problem every season. Some kind-hearted man, however, usually gives his time to teaching the children, and school is kept on the benches in the big tent after the afternoon performance. More often than otherwise the teacher is a clown; the clowns seem all to be good-hearted fellows—as might not be expected.

With a large circus two seasons ago there was a well-bred and educated clown, who taught gratuitously all summer. The children were appreciative and attended regularly; at any rate, the clown was in control, and would compel both attendance and attention. When the performers were about to disperse, the children surprised him one afternoon in the big tent and made him a small present, accompanied by a great wreath of flowers. It was all the compensation he got; but the people say that he counted it sufficient.

A BATTLESHIP'S TEETH.

Modern Ocean Fighter Is Equipped with a Most Formidable Armament.

The teeth of a British battleship are many and various. Her largest "barbs" are the four 12-inch guns she carries in her barbettes—the modern edition of the older turrets. These guns, like all our later pieces of ordnance, are "wire-wound"—that is, they consist of a pair of steel tubes, over which are wrapped between 110 and 115 miles of specially-designed steel wire, says the London Mail.

The gun itself weighs, when finished, 66 tons, and is mounted in all the latest battleships of the Majestic and Canopus class. It is 37½ feet long, and of 33-inch interior diameter. The full charge is 67 pounds of cordite, with which it can drive its 850-pound projectile clean through nearly a yard of wrought iron at 1,000 yards range, of 21 km. at twice that distance.

The "secondary," but probably the most valuable, portion of every battleship's armament consists of her 12 6-inch guns. These weapons are also wire-bound, are 20 feet in length, weigh 15 tons 15 hundredweight, are constructed in much the same way as their larger brethren with 14 to 32 layers of wire, will fire a cordite charge of 13½ pounds, capable of sending its 100-pound projectile through 11 inches of wrought iron at 1,000 yards, and fire 15 shots in a minute.

An Interesting Experiment. A very interesting experiment may be performed with a block of ice by anyone when the ice is near the melting point, says a well-known scientist. If a wire is put around the ice and a sufficient weight is suspended to it, the pressure of the wire on the ice will gradually liquefy that portion immediately under the wire, which allows it to sink into the ice slowly, and as this process goes on the ice freezes together again behind the wire, so that in time the wire will pass entirely through the block and leave it a solid block, as it was before the experiment began.—Albany Argus.

She Got Him.

Miss Updote—I think I should like to be the wife of a man with a chance to be president. Mr. Cadet (poking his thumb at her neck)—Oh, darling—but this is so sudden!—Kansas City Star.

INTEMPERANCE IN EATING.

A Common Fault That Is Harmful and of Which But Little Notice Is Taken.

Volumes have been written and millions of words have been spoken against overindulgence, or any indulgence, indeed, in alcoholic beverages; and whatever differences of opinion there may be as to the harmfulness of a temperate use of wine or beer, there is none whatever as to the dangers of intemperance in that direction. But how many persons ever stop to think of the fatal effects of intemperance in eating? asks South's Companion.

Even insurance companies, which would refuse to insure an habitual drunkard, make no inquiries, as a rule, concerning the applicant's habits about eating; yet as regards the shortening of life, many physiologists assert that overeating is more destructive than overdrinking.

The organs of the body are able to assimilate only a certain amount of nutriment, which is proportioned to a nicety to the daily loss of substance in the different tissues.

If more food is taken than can be utilized, the liver and the kidneys are called upon to get rid of the extra amount. This they are perfectly able to do once in awhile, especially in the young, and even a Christmas dinner a month later, can be disposed of with ease if the organs are not habitually overworked. But if they have to dispose of a Thanksgiving dinner and two other heavy meals every day of the year, they will rebel and finally give up exhausted, long before the proper time.

No adult leading the average life needs three full meals a day; indeed, three "solid" meals a day are, it is safe to say, absolutely harmful to nine-tenths of us.

It is of course impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule, as to the taking of food, which will apply to everybody under all circumstances, but it is pretty safe to advise almost everybody to eat less.

The Roman Catholic church prescribes certain rules as to fasting during Lent, which all its members are commanded to observe. According to these directions, only one full meal can be eaten in the day—either at noon or in the evening. In the morning nothing is allowed but a piece of bread with coffee, tea or chocolate; for dinner, there may be served a full meal; then, for luncheon or tea, what is called a "collation," that is to say, a light repast, is permissible.

The hygienic excellence of these rules is beyond dispute, and the only quarrel the physician has with them is that they are binding only upon the members of that church, and upon them for only six weeks out of the 52.

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Fresh Features of the Season's Outcomes That Are Popular with the Ladies.

Many of the evening bodices are pouched at the back as well as in the front, and here the wide folded band is very becoming to slight figures, says the Washington Star.

There are all sorts of beautiful models for deep mourning. An accordion-plaited hose empire tea gown had a bolero of exquisite black embroidery fastened with a knotted sash at the side of fringed crepe de chine and a very old engraved mother of pearl buckle.

Adjustable stock collars have a place in the variegated display of neckwear and are built on the principle of the pulley belt, with flexible bone inlaid between the satin ribbon of which it is made and the silk lining. A ring is attached at either side and the ends drawn through. These are tied in a four-in-hand knot in a short bow with long ends.

Jet is rather at a discount, although a really good jet frock always looks well. It requires, however, to be treated with much discrimination. It is only very daintily fair people who can wear black without relief, unless, indeed, they be intensely dark and exquisitely beautiful. But these are not common attributes, and the relief of a black jet frock by white tulle is certainly more universally becoming.

Straw embroidery on black malines is a pretty combination for a toque, and again you see black straw hats trimmed with white malines. Tulle in every color is used in millinery for rosettes and bows, and for shirtings and platings forming entire hats. Cream lace straw toques finished with a bunch of black flowers at one side and narrow bands of black velvet tucked in between the folds are one of the novelties. There is a great deal of the beautiful new flame color used for evening gowns. This is trying to the wearer unless it be in the softest fabric relieved with a beautiful face; but then real lace looks well with anything, and, after all, when we come to think of it, it is immensely good value, for lace can never be out of fashion, providing it is really good. Nowadays, too, the most lovely patterns are produced in imitation, so that for a very moderate outlay we can become the possessors of very good designs. There is a perfect craze for the dirty or ecru shade.

The Peacock Feather Craze.

There is a craze for peacock feathers. One sees new examples of it constantly. An elaborate house gown, for example, is of gray panne with long peacock feathers embroidered on the skirt. This frock is cut in the director's fashion, with a short bolero of guipure edged with chinchilla. The collar and revers of the little jacket are faced with a changeable blue and green velvet.—Detroit Free Press.

WEDS A COACHMAN.

Adopted Daughter of Wealthy New Yorker Takes Hasty Step.

The Secret Comes Out and the Bride Chooses Her Coachman Husband Rather Than a Trip Abroad.

When Mrs. William G. Mulligan, of 1911 Fulton avenue, Tremont, then unmarried, adopted the infant daughter of her dead friend, Mrs. Alexis Karaman, 16 years ago, her father warned her that some day the child would bring her trouble. Last Monday the adopted daughter, now a beautiful girl of 16, left her foster parents' home forever. She had been secretly married to Mrs. and Mrs. Mulligan's coachman, William Lahey, on May 9. The pair did not give any hint that they were husband and wife. But on Monday this marriage notice was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Mulligan.

"Lahey-Karaman—May 9, Ella Karaman, 18 years old, to William Lahey, 23 years old, by Rev. George Nixon, pastor of the Tremont Presbyterian church, One Hundred and Seventy-fourth street and Washington avenue.

Beneath was written in pencil: "This is true. If you want proof go to the minister."

Mrs. Mulligan did go to the minister. She learned that her adopted daughter and the coachman had been married, the rector's daughter, a schoolmate of Ella Karaman and Dr. Andrews acting as witness.

Mrs. Mulligan offered to send her foster daughter abroad, but she chose her coachman husband instead. Mr. Mulligan ordered the coachman from his premises, but as a parting gift handed to Mrs. Lahey \$500.

He told her, however, he would help her no more nor would he have anything to do with her and her husband. Mrs. Mulligan is the daughter of the late Capt. William P. Murphy, from whom she inherited a large fortune. She was among the first women lawyers in New York, and is the only woman member of the real estate exchange.

A HUMANE BULLET.

A Connecticut Man Invents a Missile Which Will Do Away with the Usual Frightful Lacerations.

Dr. Robert M. Mullings, of Norwalk, Conn., has invented what he believes to be the most humane bullet yet offered for use in civilized warfare. He asserts it will do away with the frightful lacerations about which so much has been written since the United States engaged in war with Spain.

The bullet is not unlike an ordinary bullet, except that it has an opening, which he calls a canal, practically all the way through it. This opening, he maintains, will prevent the explosion of projectile air after the bullet has entered the body, and also will prevent the entrance of air into the wound.

The new bullet has a steel tube, extending from the tip to the butt, so fastened at each end as not to weaken the bullet or give it an opportunity to explode. At the back of the bullet, against the opening into the tube, is an aluminum wad, to prevent the escape of the gas generated by the powder. As soon as the bullet leaves the shell this aluminum wad detaches itself, leaving the tube open.

TO GUARD TREASURES OF ART.

Priceless Wallace Collections to Be Put in Fireproof Building.

The greatest event of the year will be the opening of the Wallace collections at London. Harford house has been thoroughly renovated and repaired, and the famous art treasures have been catalogued and placed where they can be seen to best advantage.

These collections, which are owned by the nation, will fill out the deficiencies of the national gallery in French art. Practical measures have already been taken to secure property adjoining the national gallery, so that a building with priceless works of art can be isolated and protected against fire.

The recent warning from a fire in that dangerous quarter has alarmed the officials and compelled them to bestir themselves.

NEW YORK'S POPULATION.

Thought That the Census Returns Will Show That the City Has Over Three Million People.

The work of taking New York's census has been completed, although the returns have not yet been forwarded to Washington. The most amazing thing about this census is the rate of increase of New York's population in the last ten years. While Census Supervisor Wilbur has steadfastly refused to give out any figures, it is pretty well known that the population of the five boroughs which now compose the city of New York is about 3,650,000.

Great Britain's Frontier.

On land alone Britons have to defend a frontier that is quite 28,790 miles long, which is more than twice the length of that of France, more than three times those of Germany and Russia and but little less than those of France, Germany and Russia combined.

German and Austrian Cavalry. In Germany the 92 cavalry regiments are all armed with saber, carbine and lance. In Austria, the 42 cavalry regiments carry saber and carbine; the 11 regiments of Uhans, who used to carry a lance, have ceased to do so.

MYSTERY OF THE BOOK.

It Was Hidden for Five Years Before Its Whereabouts Was Revealed.

"Once in awhile something out of the usual happens in the daily life of government clerks, which serves to break the monotony of the work," said a clerk in the interior department, reports the Washington Star.

"Occasionally, in all of the departments, records or papers will mysteriously disappear, and how they got away or where they went remains always an unsolved problem.

"About five years ago a large book containing the records kept in one of the bureaus of this department suddenly disappeared. How it could have gotten out of the room without hands was unaccountable, as it was a bulky, heavy volume. It was of no value as a salable article, and the motive of the theft was as inexplicable as its whereabouts.

"Diligent search was made at once, but to no avail. The search was not given up, however, and was afterward periodically made in hopes that it would be found in an unexpected place.

"And it was found in such a place a few days ago. One of the clerks happened to look upon the seat of the chair of another clerk—an elderly lady with poor eyesight—and there, under a piece of outer covering, lay the big book. The lady is a short person, and the book had faithfully preserved its records and held her up for five long and weary years without complaint. There was a general laugh at her expense, but the chief was very glad it was eventually found in the office.

"Official papers are often blown from the desks of clerks into the street. Sometimes they are of importance, but usually they may be replaced with a slight delay constituting the only loss.

"A clerk carelessly laid five ten-dollar bills on his desk in a room on the seventh street side of the former post office department, building on a pay day a few years ago. It was during the prevalence of the high wind preceding a heavy thunderstorm. A minute later the bills were taken up by a gust of wind, and went sailing in all directions high in the air above the street. Where they landed was never known, for none was recovered.

"The clerk took his loss philosophically when he got over the shock, and said that while he had heard of it raining cats and dogs, he could testify in any court that he had seen it rain crisp new ten-dollar bills in Washington.

"One day, in this department, some valuable papers disappeared. It was thought they had been stolen. Several weeks subsequently they were discovered under the corner of a desk occupied by a temporary clerk. She had thought them of no value, and had placed them in this position to preserve the equilibrium of the desk, one of the rollers being lost."

A RAILROAD DOG.

An Irish Setter That Used to Flag Crossings on a Chicago Engine.

The only "active" railroad dog in the country, the only one on the payroll of a railroad line, is dead. That was Fido, who seven years ago, when only a slip of a pup, was picked up in the yard of the Chicago, Lake Shore & Eastern road, and, as the Chicago Tribune says, clung to the place ever after.

One of Fido's accomplishments was flagging crossings for locomotive No. 50. In the discharge of that duty, three years ago, he prevented an accident and probably saved the road a lawsuit.

A peddler was approaching the Wabasha avenue crossing, when Fido came along, looking, as usual, to see if all was well. The dog was 50 yards ahead of the engine, and in dog fashion he tried to warn the peddler of danger. The peddler, however, paid no attention, but kept on. Just as he got within three feet of the track, Fido jumped up and knocked him back prostrate. A moment later the engine passed. But for the dog the peddler would have been killed.

When the president of the road heard the story he put Fido on the payroll. The dog got his wages in an envelope every month, like any other employe, and the men provided for him lavishly besides.

Fido was an Irish setter, apparently with some claim to pedigree; but life about the railroad yards blunted his finer feelings, and he became a fighter that no dog could whip. Not a man in the neighborhood would have hesitated to wager his money at odds on Fido.

The dog had a system of his own. His was a running fight. When another dog attacked him along the road, Fido would manage to get his assailant between himself and the moving locomotive, which he followed all the time. While doing this he would watch for a chance, rise to his best, and throw his assailant under the wheels of the engine. Then he would run ahead, and flag crossings just as if nothing had happened.

But it was in one of these fights that the railroad dog lost his life. He disposed of his assailant in the usual manner, but in doing so he ran too close to the track, and the locomotive cylinder struck him and knocked him under the wheels. The railroad men shed tears when they buried Fido, and they intend that he shall have a monument.

The Woman of It.

Clara—If you don't love him, why should you accept his attentions? Maud—Well, you know, some other girl might.—Detroit Free Press.

SAID IN SHORT WORDS.

A Strong Talk Entirely in Monosyllables Made by an Ohio Man Years Ago.

In these days of turgid eloquence, when public speakers seem to vie with one another to see how many triple-jointed words they can lug into a speech, and seem to scorn the strength and beauty of short words, an address delivered many years ago by A. P. Edgerton, of Ohio, has peculiar weight, says the Chicago Chronicle, and is an eloquent argument in favor of short, direct methods of speech. Mr. Edgerton is a former member of congress, and was civil service commissioner under President Cleveland. The address was delivered in 1882 at the commencement of the Fort Wayne high school, in Indiana, and while it was impromptu and not at all a studied effort at monosyllabic diction, each of the words it contains is a monosyllable. Not only that, but as an oratorical effort it ranks high. The address is as follows:

"This day we close for the year the Fort Wayne free schools, and we now part with you, the girls and boys we are no more to teach.

"I say girls and boys, for when three score and ten years have come to you you will be glad to have your friends say that health and peace of mind have kept your hearts warm; that you wear no brow of gloom, are not borne down with age, but still, in heart, are 'girls and boys.' When these years come, and I hope they will come to all, the tide of time will roll back and tell you of your school-time days, when the fair, the kind and the true found love, but the false heart found no friend, no tongue to praise. These days bring rich gifts to age, and when you have ceased to think of them your fire has burned low and your light has gone out. You have been here taught in the hope that the free schools of Fort Wayne would help to make you of use to your friends and to the world, would give you faith in all that is good and true, and lead you to seek work, for that you must seek and do if you would have a good name, wealth, a home, a charge to keep or a trust to serve. Go forth with a bold, true heart to seek the work for you to do.

"Keep in mind that the hours to work run through each day and that God's great law of life is: 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.' "Now, for you, young men, this truth is told.

"Go where you will through the world and you will find on the front door of shops and mills, of stores and banks, and on ships, on farms, on roads, in deep mines where men toil for wealth; where laws are made that make some men too rich and men of worth and work through all our land too poor; where men by law are taught to plot with sin, to spurn the right, that charge and ood and soil may make old 'Quirk's' law firms rich; where law is so plead that the judge must guess to find what's law; where quacks mock fight o'er sick men's pains and dead men's bones; where types are set and none to mind the proofs; where priests do preach and pray, and where schools are taught, this sign: 'Brains Will Find Work Here.'

"Don't fear. Step up and ask for work; brains will get it. Don't let 'I dare not wait on I would'—like the cat that loves fish, but dares not wet her foot.

"If it be said: 'What can you do? Will you learn a trade?' say 'I have none, but I can learn one and put brains in it.' When you go to a place where brains should hunt for work and be sure to find it, it may be said to you: 'Do you see that plow?' Can you hold and drive it deep? That plow, in its wise use, gives all men food.

"Do you see that wheel and that crank, and those shafts and that press, and do you hear the rush and the hiss of the steam which moves them? Can you make and hold and run them? Can you build and drive the works and wheels which make the wealth of the earth and cause it to roll and to float to and fro from place to place, where it is the best for man to use it?"

"Can you spin the thread and weave it which makes robes for kings and silks for the rich and vain, and dress for the poor, and all that skill and art have wrought by loom and hand for man's use?"

"These things are all shot through with threads of light—the light of mind and art and skill, which shines each day more bright and dims all the old by some new-found light as the years go on."

Millinery of the Moment. Tulle and chiffon form the two chief components of the millinery of the moment, and just imagine what the gossamer and tucking of tulle mean! Recollect the hopeless way in which it sticks to one's fingers and the bedraggled appearance both tulle and chiffon have when not absolutely fresh. Altogether the best millinery this year displays the highest workmanship in its manipulation, and the most beautiful hats, which look as if they are blown together, are the results of four or five days' labor. Even simple cycling hats have stretched taffeta rosettes and bows, all of which necessitate a great deal of work. The picture hat is lovely, and whole crowns are formed of ostrich plumes.—Washington Star.

Starch for Washing Colored Fabrics. There is nothing so safe and so satisfactory for washing colored goods, both light and dark, as starch. Make a gallon of thick starch with half a cupful of rice or cornstarch, and four quarts of water. Add two gallons of tepid water to three-fourths of the starch, and the same amount of water to the remaining fourth. Wash the garment in the thickest starch water, then wash in the next starch water. Rinse in clear water, dry in the shade, sprinkle and iron on the wrong side.—Ladies' Home Journal.

RICH GOLD BEDS IN NICARAGUA.

Flattering Reports of the Country Made by Charles Lobner Just Returned.

"The gold fields of Nicaragua are just as rich as those of the Klondike, and when more is known of the riches of the Central American country the rush to the Nicaragua gold fields will be as great as it ever was to California or the Black Hills." This is the statement made by Charles Lobner, of Cape Gracias, Nicaragua, the other day at the Leland hotel, Chicago.

With a gold nugget weighing 6½ ounces and worth in the neighborhood of \$120, in his pocket, Mr. Lobner came to Chicago to look after machinery for some mine owners of that country. He is an American, has lived in Nicaragua for ten years, and is enthusiastic over the climate and the possibilities of the country. In speaking of the prospects, Mr. Lobner said that with the building of the Nicaragua canal an era of prosperity unprecedented in the history of the country would set in. The Nicaraguans, both in private and in official life, are anxious for the construction by the United States of the interoceanic waterway, and the foreigners will welcome the day when the first shovelful of earth is turned in the commencement of the work.

"With the construction and operation of the canal by the United States," said Mr. Lobner, "will come an era of peace and good times that the country has never hitherto enjoyed. Political differences and devastating rebellions and Central American wars would be done away with to a great extent by reason of the United States' influence."

"Contrary to the general belief, Mr. Lobner asserts that Nicaragua is one of the most healthful countries on the globe. Fevers practically are unknown, and malaria is the only ailment that is at all prevalent.

LION BREAKS FROM ITS CAGE.

Animal Causes a Panic Among Spectators at a Milwaukee Resort Near Milwaukee.

A lion in a menagerie at Coney Island, a resort on the river at Milwaukee, Wis., broke from its cage the other evening and caused a panic among a large number of pleasure seekers. The lion has the reputation of having killed a keeper in England and a few days ago struck Mme. Hilda, the performer who goes into the cage with the lions. One of the attractions of the show is the feeding of the animals. The other evening the keeper teased the lion by placing large pieces of meat on a long pole and then pulling it away before the lion could get at the meat. This caused the beast to become furious. He tipped over the cage, and the bars broke.

The lion started on a tour of the park. A kangaroo was in his way, and he killed it. The crowd vanished. Some climbed the trees, but the majority fortified themselves in a house. The killing of the kangaroo aroused the animal more than ever. When he saw the park clear of people he killed a Shetland pony and had started to feed on his prey when some of the attendants lassoed him. After a struggle they got him into a cage. No one was seriously injured.

BOY FINDS GOLD IN CELLAR.

A Cincinnati Mother Turns the Money Over to the Police Officers.

A woman excitedly entered Bremen street police station at Cincinnati the other day, and, turning over \$300 in gold to Sgt. Juggling, informed him that her little boy, George Kramer, had found it in a cellar in Wade street, near Plum.

The boy and two companions, Alfonso Churech and Itby Herz, were in the rear of No. 213 Wade street Sunday afternoon, and Kramer, espying a lot of gold pieces, suggested playing marbles, using the gold as chips. They played and Kramer won all the money.

When he took it to his mother she nearly had hysterics. She is poor, and at first, she says, thought of keeping the money, but later concluded to give it to the police.

PUTS BAN ON SPOONING.

Search-Lights Introduced on Famous Board Walk at Asbury Park, Much to Discomfort of Young People.

Founder Bradley has decided that he will have no more "spooning" on the famous board walk at Asbury Park, N. J. Not a dark nook is to be left to Cupid's slaves. At various points commanding the walk workmen are putting up searchlights. These machines can be turned in any direction, lighting up at night with fatal clearness all the lovers' most favored nooks. Founder Bradley is triumphant, the summer girls are despondent and the programme for the camp meeting was issued the other day.

A University's Forest.

The University of the South, at Sewanee, Tenn., has placed its 8,000-acre tract of hardwood timber near that town under the management of the division of forestry. An official of the division will mark all trees to be cut, and will draw up the logging contracts to provide for the preservation of young growth. It is intended to make the forest yield a permanent annual revenue to go toward the support of the college.

A Popular Barber.

A Williamsport (Pa.) barber was rendered dumb the other day by a bolt of lightning. Now, says the Chicago Times-Herald, let him prepare to work overtime.

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