

(No Model.)

Z. T. FRENCH.

LASTING JACK OR HOLDER FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

No. 274,091.

Patented Mar. 13, 1883.

Fig. 1.

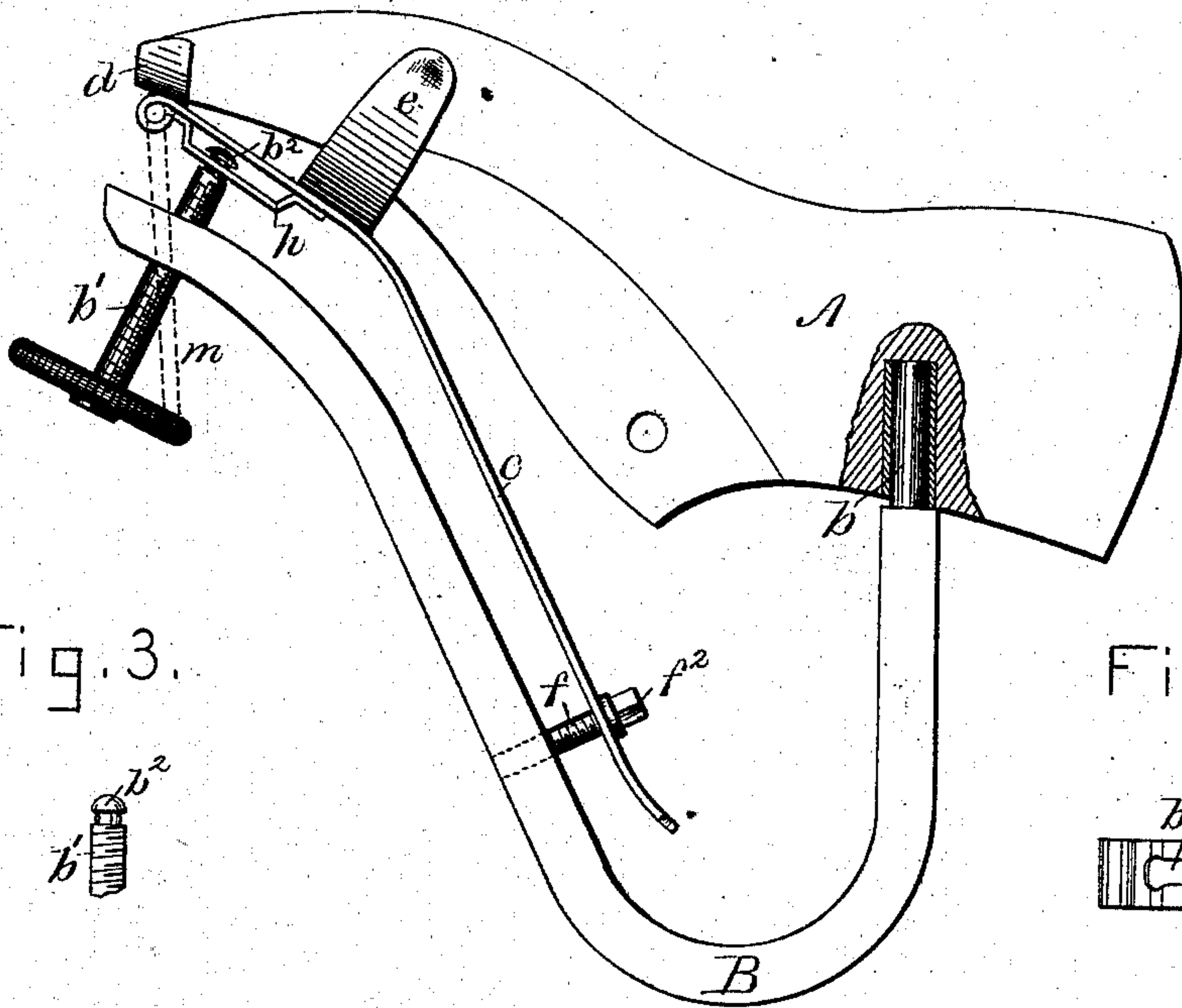


Fig. 3.

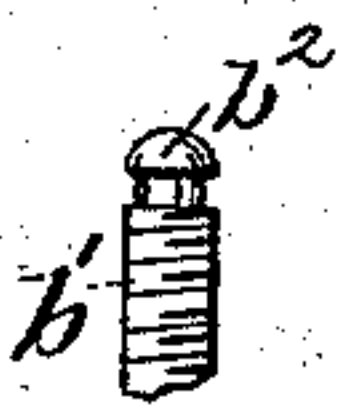


Fig. 4.

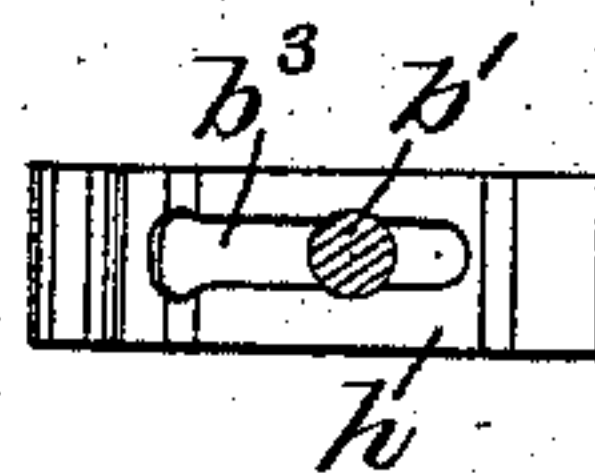
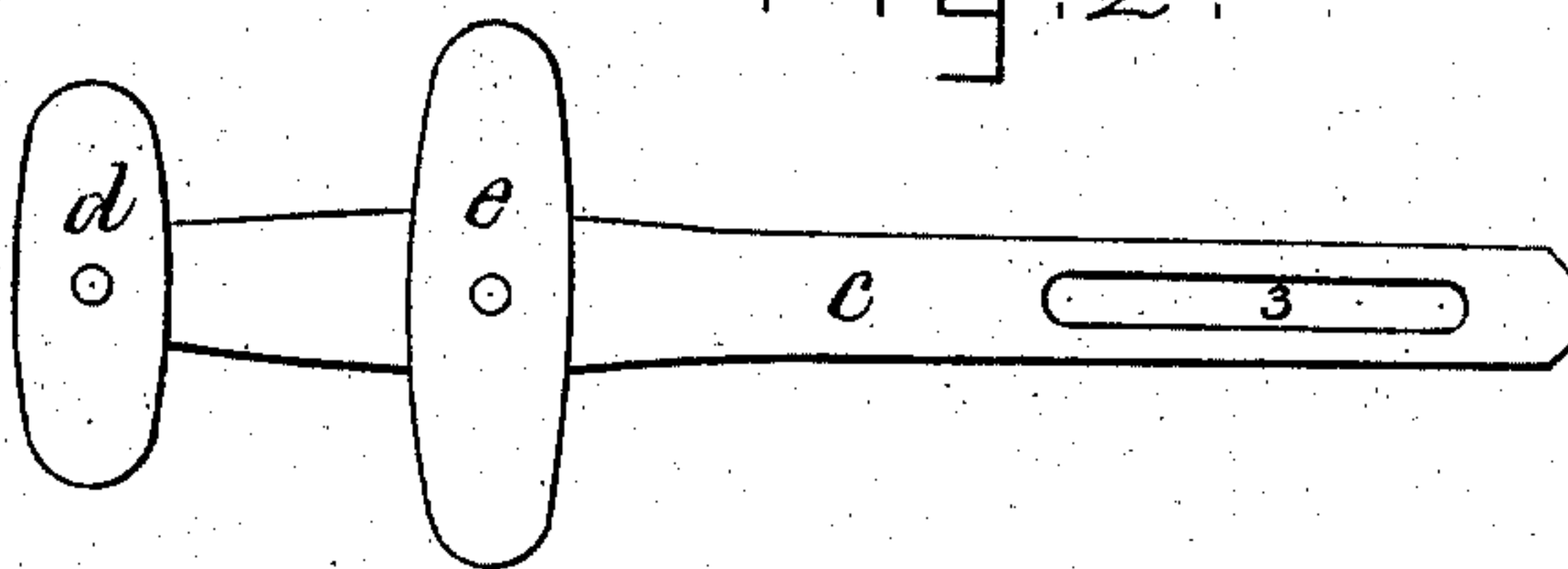


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ZACHARY T. FRENCH, OF BOSTON, MASS., ASSIGNOR TO THE GOODYEAR & MCKAY SEWING MACHINE COMPANY, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

LASTING-JACK OR HOLDER FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,091, dated March 13, 1887.

Application filed January 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ZACHARY T. FRENCH, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Lasting-Jacks or Holders for Boots and Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

The jack, the subject of my invention, is adapted to hold a lasted boot or shoe while the outer sole is being stitched in a sole-sewing machine to the welt or to an outwardly-turned upper; and my invention is an improvement on United States Letters Patent No. 258,696, to which reference may be had.

In the lasting-jack or shoe-holder represented in the patent referred to the clamps which act against the upper are mounted upon a block pivoted upon a rigid lever extended loosely through an opening in the standard containing the heel-pin, and the said lever is acted upon by a screw to control the pressure of the clamps upon the upper on the last. As the heel-pin-receiving hole in the last becomes worn, and the last-pin has play thereon, it has been found that the standard and lever are forced backward toward the heel of the last as the screw is turned in against the lever to force the clamps upon the upper. This backward movement of the lever causes the clamps to draw upon and move the fore part of the upper backward, and also move back with it the last-block. In a holder of the kind referred to employed with short lasts the rigid lever extends back of the heel of the last, which is objectionable to the operator when presenting the toe of the shoe to the sewing-machine, as it interferes with the ready turning of the shoe and holder.

In this my invention I have simplified and cheapened the construction of the jack or shoe-holder, and reduced its weight, making it easier for the operator to present the shoe held by it to the sewing-machine.

My invention consists in a yoke provided at one end with a heel-pin and at its other end with a screw, or equivalent, combined with a spring and one or more attached clamps to engage and hold the upper on the last.

Figure 1 represents in side elevation a jack or shoe-holder embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a top view of the spring detached; Fig. 3, a view of the end of the screw, and Fig. 4 an under side view of the slotted plate engaged by the screw.

In the drawings, A represents the last, upon which will be placed the upper and sole to be united. The yoke B at one end has a heel-pin, *b*, and at its other end a screw, *b'*, to bear against and move the spring *c*, which carries the toe-clamp *d*, and the clamp *e*, which engages and holds the upper on the top of the foot of the last, opposite the ball thereof. The end of this spring nearest the heel-pin is slotted, as at 3, to receive the adjustable holding device *f*, (shown as a headed bolt,) the projection of which determines the distance of the said spring from the yoke—the nearer the head *f*² to the yoke the stiffer the spring. The slot 3 is long enough to permit the spring *c* to be adjusted or moved longitudinally to adapt the clamps to lasts of different lengths and to operate with lasts of different shapes.

The clamp-forcing device *b'* (shown as a screw) has at its end a small head, *b*², below which is an annular groove, *b*³, to receive the edges of the slotted plate or holding device attached to the under side of the spring *c*. The end of the screw, or its head *b*², rests against the under side of the spring *c*, and preferably between the two clamps, or so that the movement of the screw *b'* toward the last causes both of the clamps to be forced against the upper, the end of the spring nearest the heel-pin then resting against the head of the bolt or screw *f*. The clamps readily adjust themselves to the shape of the last being used, and stretch and hold the upper firmly in place thereon. The screw *b'*, in engagement with the slotted plate *h*, enables the spring to be held in place with relation to the yoke when the last is removed. If desired, the slotted plate might be omitted and the spring be provided with a holding device made as a bail, *m*, or as a wire loop, as shown in dotted lines, to hold the spring to the yoke B when the last is removed. Longitudinal adjustment of the spring on the yoke enables the jack to receive and operate correctly in connection with lasts

of different lengths, and the yoke and spring are made light to occupy the least possible space. The yoke, below that part of it constituting the heel-pin, or that part which directly enters the last, is bent or curved, as shown in Fig. 1, to form a space, S, for the reception of the top or ankle part of the boot or shoe on the last, the said curved part of the yoke also serving as a handle by which the operator may manipulate the lasting-jack or shoe-holder.

In this my apparatus I have applied the power to move the clamps which hold the upper where they act upon the upper, and by dispensing with a rigid lever between the screw and last and applying the power directly to a spring near the point where the clamp bears against the upper on the last I am enabled to increase the effective pressure of the clamp with less expenditure of power.

Instead of a screw for the clamp-forcing device, I might have an eccentric-lever or other well-known mechanical equivalent.

I claim—

1. In a lasting-jack or shoe-holder, the yoke provided with the heel-pin and the clamp-

forcing devices, combined with a spring, or clamp carried by it, substantially as described.

2. The spring and its two clamps, *d e*, combined with the yoke having the heel-pin and the forcing device, and means, substantially as described, to retain the spring in position with relation to the yoke, as set forth.

3. The spring, its clamps *d e*, and the slotted plate *h*, combined with the yoke and screw-like forcing device, substantially as described.

4. The yoke provided with the heel-pin, combined with the longitudinally-adjustable spring *c*, provided with two clamps, and with a holding device for that end of the spring nearest the heel-pin, to enable the jack to be adapted to lasts of different lengths, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

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Witnesses:

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