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CALIFORNIA GAME

"MARKED DOWN"

BULL

"Fields, woods and streams,
Each towering hill, and humble vale below,
Shall hear my cheering voice."

Somerville Chase.

CALIFORNIA GAME

“MARKED DOWN”

SCENIC MOUNTAIN WOODLAND COVERTS, AND
TIDE-MARSH RESORTS FOR GAME.

LAKES AND STREAMS
FOR TROUT,

AND THE GENEROUS PACIFIC FOR ALL DESIRABLE MARINE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPORTING LIFE.

ILLUSTRATED.

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

NO. 4 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

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INTRODUCTION.

One of the writer's earliest sporting memories relates him to following at heel of a genuine huntsman and proudly bearing the captives of his gun. This was in the wilds of Southern Michigan, antedating the sorrowful deportation of the Pottawattamies to the farther west, and when it was everywhere daily marked by moccasined feet. The mentor had no dog, and the agreeable duty that fell to the pupil was that of retriever. Of necessity it would be a "still hunt," and the boy's impatient bubbling happiness met many a frown of repression. It was his wonder then, as now, how the skilled fowler saw game birds, turkeys, ruffed-grouse and quail on their feeding-grounds, and the retriever saw nothing. The leader would make a stealthy forward movement, with noiseless bough parting, and pause with backward wave of commanding hand; then a step, and as the flushed birds took whirring wing, one or more would fall to unerring shot. Fine bags were always made; one or two turkeys, an occasional mallard, and a mixed dozen or more of prairie hens, ruffed-grouse and quail, with now and again samples of hickory and hazel-nut fattened black, gray and fox squirrels, hardly esteemed game, but royal on the broiler.

The apprenticeship was likely to be short, in fact was so; and thereafter for a time no better schooling was attainable than that of threading the silent cloisters of Nature, every faculty of soul and body under tutelage, the heart not infrequently holding the hand from slaughter for pure love of the noble victim, and sympathy with its small affairs. Uncle Toby's lesson had not been lost, "Pursue your way; surely this woodland world is broad enough for both of us." And then, half wearied by traverse of fern and leaf-cushioned hill and dale, the convenient stream would be sought, rod improvised from thicket of witch-hazel, and safely pocket-kept hook and line brought into communication with it. For bait a small batrachian caught in the near-by dank meadow-land. A shrewd cast would be made into an eddy of the swirling current, and like a flash the tautening line reveals the peril of piscine hunger; a brief contest for supremacy, and a five-pound bass or a ten-pound pickerel is landed on the mossy bank. The while an envious king-fisher, with sharp scream of disapproval, springs in uncertain flight from an over-stream decaying limb, and a song thrush clad in sober

POTTAWATTAMIE CHIEF.

Taber Photo.

brown with mottled breast, on topmost perch of some tall hickory, rehearses a sylvan opera, combining earth's best notes with dreams of heaven.

POTTAWATTAMIE MOTHER AND CHILD.

Taber Photo.

Then follows the leisurely way to rustic home, and breaking a fast that for hours had been masked by an absorbing ethereal banquet.

Does the reader exclaim, "O that may pass for a fancy sketch, but it

does not fit Pacific Coast conditions? We have none of your brown-coated or be-mottle-vested song-thrushes to trill us their operatic combinations, nor if we had them could we furnish forth a tall hickory for musical perch. And where are your noble redmen, and your cloistered forests, your turkeys and your ruffed-grouse? Nowhere—a *memory* of

WILD TURKEY.
Meleagris Gallopavo.

another generation and another land only, not to say *fiction*, since that word had best be reserved until we come to the scaling of your fish."

Ah, my friend, you and the sportsman are not cast in the same mold, are hardly of the same world. To his sensitive and appreciative sight a thousand beauties are revealed unseen of others. His ear is attuned to harmonies—only for those born while "the morning stars are singing together for joy."

The purpose of this paper however is not for reminiscence, but to furnish the sportsman with reliable data in regard to each separate game and fishing resort named, that he may know in advance what to expect, and within reason to meet no disappointment. For the most part the writer has personal knowledge, but this has been carefully supplemented and extended by valuable information obtained from editors, sportsmen, scientists and official State papers, and the reader if he so desires can duplicate any achievement herein suggested.

E. W. Currier, Pinxit.

CONTRASTS BETWEEN ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC COAST FIELDS OF SPORT.

In the Eastern and Middle States there has been for years a growing complaint of game exhaustion. As to fish, large sums were freely devoted to artificial propagation and restocking depleted waters, with a resulting halt in their impoverishment. This movement was also aided by legislation, narrowing the open seasons and greatly reducing the time for sporting enjoyment. Touching this phase of the subject, and

BOB WHITE QUAIL.

Colinus Virginianus and Perdix Virginianus.

also the Pacific Coast contrast to it, no apology need be offered for a quotation from the facile pen of Doctor David Starr Jordan, President of Leland Stanford Jr. University: "Everywhere on the Pacific Slope, in every clear stream of the Cascade, the Sierra Nevada, the Coast Range, Rocky Mountains, and all their flanking ranges, some variety of trout abounds. This region should be the Mecca of anglers, as it is of all lovers of the beautiful and the sublime of nature."

In the East the trout or charr has almost passed away. The trout hog has devoured him, and the angler is turning his hand unwillingly to

black bass and tarpon, as the successor of Izaak Walton fills his basket with gudgeon and chub. Says Myron W. Reed, a veteran angler: "This is the last generation of trout fishers. The children will not be able to find any. Already there are well-trodden paths by every stream in Maine, in New York, and in Michigan. I know of but one river in North America by the side of which you will find no paper collar or other evidence of civilization. It is the Nameless River. Not that trout will

RUFFED GROUSE.
Bonasia Umbellus.

PRAIRIE HEN.
Tetrao Cupido.

cease to be. They will be hatched by machinery and raised in ponds, and fattened on chopped liver and grow flabby and lose their spots. The trout of the restaurant will not cease to be. *He* is no more like the trout of the wild river than the fat and songless reed bird is like the bobo-

link. Gross feeding and easy pond-life enervate and deprave him. The trout that the children will know only by legend is the gold-sprinkled living arrow of the white water, able to zigzag up the cataract, able to loiter in the rapids, whose dainty meat is the glancing butterfly."

President Jordan then adds: "But on the Pacific Slope the rivers are still many and the anglers few. The 'trout-hog' is with us, but Mother Nature is too much for him. For a hundred generations she will be strong enough to make good whatever mischief he may do. In writing of the trout of California, one does not willingly lay down the pen at the end. The most beautiful of fishes, the most charming of lands, where the two are connected one wishes to say something better of them than has yet been said. It is with regret he lets fall the pen in a confession of inability to say it." It is no exaggeration to claim that California has thousands of streams the banks of which have never received the impress of human foot. There are unsurveyed regions known to contain such, and Mr. Reed's Nameless River may well be there.

The California State Board of Fish Commissioners in its thirteenth biennial report, page 20, says: "*Tributary to Russian River there are upward of fifteen hundred miles of trout water.*" It should be said to the non-resident reader, that in comparison with other waters in the State this Russian River, with its fifteen hundred miles of trout water, cuts no large figure. If withdrawn it would not be missed from our fluvial system. The trout waters of California are never likely to sing small. We turn from consideration of the inland fresh to the saline waters of the Pacific. California's extended coast line, its outlying islands, numerous bays, channels and estuaries combine to produce unrivaled sea-fishing. Most surprising catches may be made in these waters almost anywhere. When a day's trolling on the quiet Bay of Monterey, not two miles distant from the beach, yields a catch of eighteen salmon of a combined weight of 286 pounds, it may be feared that sport merges into commerce.

Attractions for the gun are in no respect inferior to those for rod and line. In the mountain fastnesses bear may be easily found—grizzly and black, and his congeners the brown and cinnamon—deer in the foothills, and quail everywhere; snipe are very abundant, and in the season wild geese in millions that imperil the fields of growing cereals, with ducks in large variety, including mallard, canvasback, teal, etc., that give bags of half a hundred and more to a day's shooting. Chinese pheasants

have been imported in considerable numbers and assigned to the care of suitable persons while propagating stock to be set free. They are now strictly protected by law, but in due time will be added to the list of game birds. Non-resident sportsmen should know that with very rare exceptions, no annoyance is suffered from mosquitoes or other insect pests. The exceptions are confined to certain salt marshlands, and in those it is limited to shady places and night-time, against which it is easy to guard.

CALIFORNIA MOUNTAIN QUAIL.
Oreortyx Pictus.

CALIFORNIA VALLEY QUAIL.
Lophortyx Californica.

CALAVERAS AND TUOLUMNE.

Rare sport awaits the gun along the line of Milton-Yosemite stage road, beginning at Copperopolis and extending to and beyond Big Oak Flat. The distance by rail of Southern Pacific Company from San

Francisco to Milton is 133 miles, and a daily stage runs in close connection. The country is an ideal one for fowling, pleasantly rolling, with a gradual rise in elevation, an open woodland of oak, pine, laurel and buckeye, with suitable growth of underbrush for covert. The atmosphere is invigorating and the scenery most satisfying to æsthetic tastes. Out of Milton the first change of team is at Copperopolis, and soon after leaving this latter place game will be seen along the roadside. Choice can be made between livery or the stage. The charge in neither case will be an unreasonable one, but the stage will be found well

suited to the purpose of covering the country, since satisfactory arrangements can be made to stop over at pleasure and resume the trip on a subsequent day. Attractive farm-houses are easily found for temporary entertainment, and the people are given to hospitality. The Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers will be crossed and many old-time Placer mining camps visited; now and again men found yet at work, with more or less profit, washing auriferous gravel.

At all points in great numbers game awaits your coming—quail, doves, and squirrels, occasionally a wild pigeon. After crossing historic

Moccasin Bar, Rattlesnake Hill must be surmounted, but Priest's famous hotel is at the summit, and its promise of good cheer will sustain the climb. Here and beyond quail are everywhere in evidence. If with its balsamic mountain air, inspiring scenery and abundant game the trip grows in satisfaction, as it is likely to do, and you go beyond Big Oak Flat to Crockers, you will find a cultivated home with all the accessories of refined life, and near-at-hand unfished trout streams to be added to your gunning enjoyments. No sportsman could regret a full week's outing on these lines, and Yosemite is only half a day's distance from Crocker's, with intervening grove of *Sequoia giganteas* for your admiration and tape-line.

BLACK-BELLIED
PLOVER.

CLAPPER
RAIL.

VIRGINIA
RAIL.

KING
RAIL.

KILDEER
PLOVER.

Charadrius Squatarola.

Rallus Virginianus.
Rallus Obsoletus.

Rallus Elegans.

Ægialitis Vociferus.

NAPA COUNTY.

THOMPSON'S, ST. HELENA AND CALISTOGA.

Thompson's, at foot of Napa Valley, by Southern Pacific Company's rail forty-two miles from San Francisco, lies near the mouth of Napa

River, and affords marshes and feeding-grounds for water fowl as well as for snipe, rail and larks, with quail on the nearby uplands. The river contains Steel-head, Rainbow and Eastern Brook trout, Striped bass and many other desirable fish. When the upward valley trip is resumed profitable stops may be made at Yountville, St. Helena and at Maple, from each of which points, as at Calistoga, excursions to the hills will be rewarded by reasonable bags. From Calistoga, going still farther into the hills, deer will be found and good trout streams reached. Nowhere will there be any lack of suitable farm-house entertainment.

Napa Valley is wooded, like an English park, in magnificent oaks, certain of them, *quercus lobata*, with drooping, far-reaching limbs, and the river borders and hillsides with madrona, laurel, buckeye and pine.

EL DORADO COUNTY.

Placerville, the terminal of Southern Pacific Company's line, is sixty miles distant from Sacramento. Beginning at Folsom and extending to the terminus, a distance of thirty-eight miles, small game is everywhere abundant. As the railway train covers the line quail, doves, larks and squirrels are to be seen in all favorable places. Good sport can be had by stops at Latrobe, Shingle Springs, El Dorado or Diamond. Private grounds are not open except upon permission of the owner, but usually this can be obtained on proper application. There is no lack of unoccupied and public grounds, and sport is by no means at the mercy of churls.

DUSKY GROUSE.
Dendragapus Obscurus.

Fine large bags are easily made. Out of Placerville into the foothills, deer are plentiful, and a more extended excursion into the mountains will add bear to your trophies. Trout streams well stocked are also found with the bear and deer. The foothills are covered by a growth of underbrush with oaks, pines, laurel and buckeye. The mountains are heavily forested in sugar, yellow and white pine, and a great variety of cypresses, cedars, spruce and hemlocks. Any reasonable wish for sport with either rod or gun can be had by a visit of a week or two in famed El Dorado.

DEER.

Taber Photo.

Cervus Virginianus.

ROCKER WASHING FOR GOLD.

Watkins Photo.

SPRUCE GROUSE.
Tetrao Canadensis.

PLACER AND NEVADA COUNTIES.

Roseville Junction is eighteen miles from Sacramento by rail on the line of Southern Pacific, looking toward the summit of the Sierra Nevada. At any point beyond this for eighty miles and until Cisco is reached, good sport can be had with grouse, quail, doves, pigeons, larks and squirrels. The country is romantic and very inspiring, full of legends of '49 and pioneer achievements. Much of it is battle-scarred in record of old-time mining struggles, in which the river and the mountain alike had to surrender their hoarded gold. It is for game, well covered by protecting undergrowth and sparingly timbered with oak, pine and the usual small arboreal features of the foothills.

Pleasant stops for a day or two can be made at Newcastle, Auburn, Clipper Gap, Colfax, Dutch Flat and many other places. ~ Bear and deer are easily found at points remote from the railway, or other frequented lines of travel, and trout streams that will furnish good sport to rod and line. Satisfactory entertainment and reasonable rates will be everywhere met.

MOUTHS OF SACRAMENTO AND SAN JOAQUIN.

Extensive tule and marsh lands border the estuaries of these rivers, and are fine feeding-grounds for web-feet and waders. The initial point is Antioch, by Southern Pacific Company's rail fifty-five miles from San Francisco. This resort extends upwards northerly for a distance of thirty miles or more, and can be reached at different points, very conveniently from Brentwood, Byron, Bethany and Tracy. Upon occasion immense flocks of wild geese, "honkers," brant, and white, offer fine

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE.

Anser Albifrons.

GREATER SNOW GOOSE.

Chen Hyperborea.

sport, and at all suitable seasons mallard, teal, widgeon, canvasback, snipe and rail may be brought to bag, with swan and cranes. Good sport also awaits the angler in salmon, striped bass and other bait or fly-takers. Pleasant quarters and reasonable rates may be had at any of the railway stations named, and as well in many inviting farm houses.

The uplands are wooded in royal, live and burr oaks, with willow

and other moisture loving trees and shrubs along the margins of small water-courses. This extensive district, so prolific in water fowl, has an added value in nearness to San Francisco and ease of access, the cost insignificant and time less than three hours.

RED-HEAD DUCK.
Aythya Americana.

CANVAS-BACK DUCK.
Aythya Valisneria.

KERN COUNTY.

Bakersfield, its most important and central city, is 314 miles from San Francisco by rail of Southern Pacific Company. As an all-round sporting field Kern county is perhaps well in the front as leader of the world. It covers an immense area of mountain and valley, takes a broad cantle out of the Sierra Nevada, with acre for acre of matching valley of San Joaquin.

GRIZZLY BEAR.

Ursus Ferox.

The mountain district furnishes ideal haunts for bear—grizzly and black, brown and cinnamon, with California lions and other feline beasts of prey, not to mention wolves and coyotes. Deer are very abundant. The mountain and foothill streams, an endless list of them named, and others yet to be explored and given a place on the map, literally swarm with trout. One of these, Whitney Creek, has recently added that

expression of highest piscine beauty, Golden Trout, *salmo mykiss aqua bonita*, to the royal family.

The valley is traversed by Kern River and by numerous other less important natural streams of living water, and by an endless network of artificial conduits, canals and laterals. In addition to these are several large lakes and reservoirs; one of them, called Buena Vista, is an immense natural basin that has been artificially assisted to a water capacity of higher level. The foothills are sparsely wooded with oaks (white

CALIFORNIA LION.
Felis Californica.

Taber Photo.

and live), pines, laurel, buckeye and madrona, with underbrush not usually so dense as to impede travel. The higher mountains are clad in heavy forests of coniferous giants; the valleys by indigenous white and live oaks in open park-like distribution, and the streams bordered by poplars and willows. Much of the valley covered by artemisia offering shelter to small game. Everywhere, in foothills and valley, quail are abundant, and this is also true of doves and larks. Very small gunning craft is needed to well filled bags.

For water fowl the favorite resort is Buena Vista Reservoir, before

noted. It lies about forty miles southwest of Bakersfield and covers an area of more than twenty-five thousand acres; is surrounded by oak, woodland and other trees and shrubs, and in places, by marsh and low-lying lands. This lake teems with every variety of water fowl. Wild geese whiten the land and water and darken the sky. Of the genus *anser* none are wanting—"honkers," brant, and the white and the grey, all, in intermingled confusion, ready to fall at either skilled or unskilled shot—swans, pelicans, cranes, canvasbacks, mallards, teal, widgeon, pintail, snipe, plover, and rail, not one of them but will respond to call of roll.

WIDGEON.
Mareca Americana.

The market hunter is in evidence, and also his murderous gun of unlawful bore; but Nature, with the Arctic circle for breeding-ground, is and will continue to be more than equal to his greed. He slaughters thousands, but unslaughtered millions wag their heads at him. In convenient shelter on the banks remains the last certainly known herd of elk in California. The same shelter also gives safe retreat to a band of antelope. Both of these are strictly protected by law, with a fine of \$300 for killing. Sportsmen will enjoy the sight of these noble and beautiful animals, and will not only respect the law themselves but enforce it against any who do not.

The waters swarm with fish, trout, perch, carp, white fish and cat-fish, and many others are to be had. In short throughout the county everywhere that water flows or finds a lodgment fish have followed and established homelife. A most enjoyable week or more can be spent at Buena Vista Lake. It is an ideal place for camping ; but if one so desires good-cheer can be had in farm houses, or by permits obtainable at the head offices in Bakersfield, still better quarters in one of the Miller & Lux or Kern County Land and Water Company's stations near the lake.

WHITNEY CREEK—Visits to the habitat of Golden Trout can be made from two initial points ; the water that has created so royal a fish flowing southerly from an ancient volcanic point near Mount Whitney has cut its channel deeply into a red or orange colored bed of lava, and the mar-

DOLLY VARDEN TROUT.

Salvelinus Malma.

velous colorings of the fish are in accord with Nature's constant efforts to protect her children. Each of the two approaches to Mount Whitney, after leaving the cars of Southern Pacific Company, require one day of staging to be followed by two days with pack train, and the trip by either of them as a romantic mountain outing, can only be matched by the other. From the extreme south you leave the cars of the railway at Caliente, 336 miles from San Francisco, taking the stage every alternate week-day morning, and reaching Weldon at the end of a pleasant nine hours' drive, during which many fine scenes will be enjoyed, and shots by the way to fill a game bag for dinner.

Reasonable entertainment awaits at Weldon, with saddle, pack animals and guide for the trail to Whitney Creek. Out from Weldon you will reach the down-flowing waters from the snows and glaciers of Mt. Whitney—finally to end their romantic life in the prosaic work of valley irrigation. These will mark your upward way and at all points reveal

“The lightly-jumpin’ glowrin’ trouts,
That thro’ the waters play,”

eager for leap at the glancing butterfly, that shall be commissary to your creel. The camp for the first night should be near the point of intersection with the trail that comes in from Visalia via Mineral King.

VISALIA—MINERAL KING TRAIL—This routing for Whitney Creek is more traveled than the one by Caliente and Weldon. The railway of Southern Pacific Company may be taken to Visalia, or better still as saving ten miles of staging, to Exeter, 259 miles from San Francisco, on the line from Fresno to Porterville, and by prearrangement take stage at this station for Mineral King. The pack train and commissary should be engaged in advance, to be in waiting at Mineral King. The staging distance from Visalia is sixty-five miles, with ten less if taken at Exeter.

At Mineral King, after a restful night, the pack train will get in motion for your anglers’ Mecca, to be achieved at the close of two most enjoyable days. Fine trout water—streams and lakes—are always under observation, and while the guide is making your camp and starting the fires, fish can be secured for the feast. It will not be difficult to find Golden Trout water that is virgin, but more so to obtain one’s consent to any early return to prosaic life on the plains. Lovers of gamy trout—the veteran angler, Reverend Myron W. Reed, whose skill with rod and line is surpassed only by that of his pen, should come here for a new sensation, and see his “gold-sprinkled living arrows” in the pure mountain waters that gave them birth, and see that this most refining sport is not dead—is not decadent even. An official of Tulare County, also a member of its Fish and Game Club, writes of a visit by him and others as follows: “Golden Trout are plentiful in Whitney Creek. My little twelve-year-old boy caught 125 in one day, on the twenty-fourth of August, 1895, with a fly-hook, using no bait.”

MERCED COUNTY.

Merced City, its county seat and principal town, is 152 miles by rail of Southern Pacific Company from San Francisco. Contiguous to it are San Joaquin, Merced and Bear rivers and other streams, together with large reservoirs and irrigating canals and laterals. There is considerable acreage of low-lying land occasionally overflowed by superabundant irrigation. These conditions combine to form attractions for water fowl, so much so that upon occasion market hunters find shooting over it to

WOOD DUCK.

Aix Sponsa.

be profitable. Fine bags of geese and ducks are easily made, with snipe and rail. Quail can also be obtained in the foothills and contiguous valley lands. Doves, larks and squirrels are plentiful, and deer by no means wanting. The foothill streams, including the Merced and its tributaries and branches, are well stocked with trout and the San Joaquin with trout, salmon, striped bass and catfish.

Reliance can be safely made on farm-house entertainment, but the

most approved method is to engage a man for guide and campkeeper, with his team. This will cost about five dollars per day, added to which will be the board of the man and his horses.

Unless one has local knowledge it will be cheap insurance against doubts as to locations and possible failure of sport, not to mention the

PIN-TAIL, DUCK.
Dafila Caudacuta.

embarrassment of specially heavy game bags, when all one's activity is needed to cope with birds neither dead or disposed to be so. Merced is easy of access by rail, reasonable sport can be had with certainty, and a probability of something more.

TULARE COUNTY.

This county as to its fauna is in close harmony with the adjoining county of Kern. It has similar high Sierra Mountain lands, with glacier and snow-fed trout streams, and its valley rivers and lakes and irrigation waters strikingly correspond with those of Kern. The flora is identical, unless it should be that Kern has no *Sequoia gigantea*, of which forest monarch Tulare has immense groves. Tulare also has some advantages in more extended parks of burr and live-oaks. Its mountain region

GREEN-WINGED TEAL.

Anas Carolinensis.

is drained by the Kaweah and Kings rivers. These create a rich field for sport with rod and gun. Bear, deer and animals of prey are to be found, and all the usual game birds of the Sierra—grouse, quail, pigeons, doves and larks—and the streams richly stocked with gamiest of fish, one of them the noted Kern River Trout, (*Salmo gairdneri gilberti*).

The line of Southern Pacific Company—Fresno to Porterville—will enable the sportsman to reach some suitable station from which he can

penetrate his chosen field. These are Sanger Junction, ^{Essex} Essex, ^{Porter} Porterville and others. Essex lies between Visalia and the mountains. From any of these places good sport can be had by reasonable pedestrianism, with a return each night, but if it is desired to penetrate the mountains, to visit its wonderful Sequoia parks and deep forest groves of mammoth *coniferae*, and to explore its canyons and waterfalls, an organized party should secure a competent guide with pack train, and enter upon the romantic experience of a lifetime. It is well nigh certain you would find yourself a pioneer in some favored place, with possibility of achieving immortality in the discovery and naming of a new variety of quadru-

COYOTE.
Canis Latrans.

ped, biped or fish. Tulare's broad acres of valley cut across by rivers and canals, with famed Tulare Lake and many overflow ponds, make it an ideal place for game birds and water-fowl. Quail, pigeons, doves, larks, snipe, plover and rail are to be found almost everywhere, and on the waters and feeding-grounds, geese and ducks of all varieties known to California. The specially fine sporting region at and about Tulare Lake can be conveniently reached from either Tulare or Hanford stations of Southern Pacific Company. Tulare is 251 miles from San Francisco

FRESNO COUNTY.

The sporting facilities of Fresno are in all respects similar to those of Kern and Tulare, with which latter county it is in political contact. It has a continuation of the mountain field northerly from that of Tulare, and the fauna and flora are identical. In the valley reasonable bags of ducks, snipe, plover, doves, larks and quail can be had, and trout in the flowing waters; but the best grounds and streams are in the foothills and mountains. In a tract of woodland known as Pine Ridge (to be reached

MONGOLIAN PHEASANT.

Tibbets Photo.

Phaisanus Mongolicus.

from Fresno) fine sport with rod and gun can be enjoyed. Quail are specially abundant, and to these may be added all varieties of game birds usually found in the Sierra foothills. Deer are plentiful, and no better sport need be asked for than one can enjoy with rod and line over the upper waters of Kings River and the San Joaquin. Nothing but the wide-spread sporting attractions of California prevents these higher lands of Fresno from becoming famous.

WAWONA

Is a favorite resort for hunting and fishing, and as well for lovers of beautiful mountain scenery and an atmosphere that is balm to most of the ills of life. It is to be pleasantly reached by coaches—famous, roomy, observation ones, with four to six well-trained equines at the front—from Southern Pacific Company's Yosemite branch line at Raymond. This latter station is the rail terminus and 201 miles from San Francisco.

Wawona is the over-night stopping-place for passengers en route to or from Yosemite via the Big Trees. The ample hotel and tributary

RAINBOW TROUT.

Salmo Irideus.

cottages are well kept, and desirable quarters for a few days or for many of them. It stands on the bank of the south fork of the Merced, a large affluent of that stream, and is surrounded by a fine forest of pines. These are in great variety among them the white, yellow and sugar pine, and about two miles distant on an elevated plateau the famous Big Tree Reservation, its conservation and management connected with Yosemite Valley. This grove is a wonderful remnant of a primeval sequoia

gigantea forest, and in close companionship with these giants are others of sugar pine—some of them 300 feet to the topmost cone. The entire country about Wawona is richly wooded and watered, containing besides those already mentioned fine groves of redwoods, douglas spruce, white cedar, pitch pine, oaks, laurels, buckeye, manzanita, madrona, lilac, dogwood, syringas and azaleas. Such a forest mountain land, with abundant living water, ought to offer sport to huntsman and angler, and this one does so in ample measure. It has unrivaled scenic beauty,

DEER.

Taber Photo.

Cervus Leucurus.

woodland lakes and tarns, bubbling trout streams, inspiring waterfalls, and everywhere fish and game. The extensive strictly gun-preserved Yosemite Valley and Big Tree grove are no doubt to some extent feeders, by game overflow, to the surrounding country, adding to its sporting wealth. Bear can be found by those desirous of such acquaintance; deer are reasonably plentiful; quail abundant, and the same is true of wild pigeons and the smaller game birds and squirrels, and trout in large variety. A visit to the nearby Yosemite Valley (half a day's

LAKE AT WAWONA.

drive) added to a week or longer of sport at Wawona, would make a royal holiday in which the ladies of the social circle might fitly join.

The climate is such as can be found only in the resinous, aromatic woodlands of the Sierra Nevada, and the water as pure as the upper-terrestrial heavens, from which it falls in the form of beautiful snow.

EASTERN BROOK TROUT.
Salvelinus Fontinalis.

A most successful fish-hatchery is located near the hotel, and in itself is a guarantee against any depletion of the trout waters. Thomas Hill, the well-known artist and angler, reports a catch of forty pounds at a lake a short distance from the hotel during the early hours of a single morning. One of them weighed six pounds.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY—WEST SIDE.

Bordering the river and beginning at Newman, 120 miles by rail of Southern Pacific Company from San Francisco, and extending southward to Mendota on the same railway line, covering a distance of more than fifty miles, can be found as rich a field for water-fowl shooting and for marshland game as the world need to produce. These lands are traversed by the west-side line of Southern Pacific Company, and so abun-

MALLARD.
Anas Boschas.

dant are geese and ducks, they are steadily flushed by passing trains. Stops for sport can be made suitably at Newman, Volta, Los Banos, Dos Palos, Firebaugh or Mendota, and a short walk will reveal game birds in satisfactory numbers. The Los Banos Game Club has constructed a house for the use of its members at a siding between Los Banos and Dos Palos, at which trains stop on request or by signal.

During certain seasons, geese will be countless; mallards, canvasbacks, teal, widgeon, pintail, snipe, plover and rail will fall to your gun almost at your pleasure. The country is a good one to shoot over, some of it covered by patches of irrigation overflow, but is not soft; and sagebrush can be successfully beaten for grouse, quail and other small game birds.

Farm houses are easy of access for entertainment, and the railway

UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER.

stations all have good hotels at which the charges are generally reasonable. Fish can be caught in numbers at the San Joaquin and include salmon, steelhead trout, striped bass, catfish and others.

KLAMATH LAKE AND WILLIAMSON RIVER.

These remarkable trout waters are reached by a ninety-mile stage drive from Ager on Southern Pacific Company's Shasta Route, 387 miles from San Francisco. Anglers of more than national reputation report that they bear off the world's palm. Men who have lured trout from all other famous resorts visit Williamson River for a new sensation.

PTARMIGAN.
Lagopus.

Taber Photo.

The variety is the Rainbow. Williamson drains the well-known Klamath marsh, a low-lying tract covering fifty square miles full of living springs. It flows southward, is joined by the Sprague from the east, and soon after their waters reach Upper Klamath Lake,

which has an area of more than 400 square miles, and in turn are poured into Lower Klamath Lake, and by the river of the same name reach the Pacific Ocean in Siskiyou county. It is an Indian reservation and a permit must be had for a visit. For best enjoyment a party should be organized with camp and commissary outfit.

Mr. J. R. Moore, a noted authority on angling, contributes a most interesting article to the November, 1895, number of the *American Angler*

GREY WOLF.
Canis Occidentalis.

in which he pleasantly relates his experience during a two weeks visit to these waters. The point selected by him was Chilliken's Bridge on the Williamson, a short distance above the junction of the Sprague. The arrival in the evening and while the campkeeper was engaged in

SALMON TROUT,
Salmo Trutta.

Taber Photo.

arranging for their home comforts, Mr. Moore took a light rod ($7\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) and went to the stream to try for a fish to grace the initial meal. He adds: "I soon had seven in my creel, running from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds in weight, which I forthwith handed over to the cook." The next morning he caught one that weighed 10 pounds. He only fished mornings and evenings, and during his stay of two weeks caught 127 fish, of a total weight of 271 pounds. In these waters the abundance and qualities of the Rainbows, in iridescent glory, overarch the long list of feathered and fur-bearing game that of itself would otherwise make it a sportsman's paradise. Bear are to be had, and deer plentiful; grouse and sagehens, quail, snipe, plover, geese and ducks to be bagged at the pleasure of the sportsman. Nothing outside the man himself can be wanting to supreme happiness.

TRUCKEE RIVER.

TRUCKEE, TAHOE, DONNER AND INDEPENDENCE.

Here is a right royal line of sporting resorts. Esthetic tastes may be fed and broadened by wonderful, high mountain, river, lake and woodland scenery. Nowhere have Nature's scenic beauties been more lavishly spread out. For lack of room some of them are placed on edge; the

lakes fortunately are on a level, but the streams for the most part are in hurried search of such restfulness.

Truckee is on the tumbling, foaming, musical river from which it takes its name, and is an important railway station of the Southern Pacific Company, 209 miles east of San Francisco, and 14 miles from the summit of the Sierra Nevada on the eastward slope. It is a central point for fine hunting and fishing resorts and may wisely be made headquarters when one desires to take them all in. Excellent trout fishing can be had

MOUNTAIN GROUSE.

Tetrao Californica.

in suitable pools of the river that borders the town, and at nearby Donner Lake choice angling is enjoyed, usually with agreeable company of the same craft. Eastern Brook trout having been planted in the lake, have found a congenial home and developed a gamy vigor that taxes the expert angler's best skill. Rainbow and the famous Cut-throat trout are also freely taken.

Independence Lake is a body of beautiful mountain water closely

framed about by luxuriant conifers. It is reached by a stage drive of fourteen miles from Boca, on Southern Pacific Company's railway line nine miles eastward of Truckee. The road is excellent, a devious winding ride through fragrant forests. The Lake is two and one-half miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide with bold and rocky shores. The waters have been kept well stocked, and by enthusiastic sportsmen are said to be alive with fish. An excellent hotel, with cottages for supplemental use, is a feature of the place. Necessary boats are in good supply, with attendants and equipments if desired. Usually the fish are taken by trolling, but rod and line are also in much request; whatever method is chosen satisfactory results are sure to follow. Almost all varieties of trout will reach your creel, but the principal are Cut-throat, Dolly Varden, Rainbow and Eastern Brook. Owing to its fine sporting qualities excellent provision for entertainment, its romantic situation and the pleasures of its approach, Independence Lake enjoys a rapidly growing popularity, and is a prime favorite with the ladies.

CUT-THROAT TROUT—LAKE TAHOE.
Salmo Mykiss.

LAKE TAHOE.

This is the home of Cut-throat trout, to which it has given the popular name of Tahoe. It is a noble body of water, at an elevation of about 7000 feet; so large it justifies steamboat transit and acknowledges an allegiance divided between two States; is of great

depth and crystalline purity, encompassed by forests of pine and snow-clad mountain peaks, and invites the angling world to come for entertainment. Its prolific waters have an enviable reputation. For more than thirty years they have been the chief market supply of San Francisco and other important marts, with many special shipments to

SAGE COCK AND HEN.
Centrocercus uphasianus.

Taber Photo.

Eastern cities. It is true these immense calls upon it have served to suggest assistance to Nature. During the season 1894 nearly one million fry of Cut-throat and of Rainbow were deposited in its waters by the Fish Commissioners of California, with a settled purpose to keep this necessary work in active operation up to any point needed in the future. Tahoe for all time is sure to remain the Mecca of anglers and

of those who can appreciate the most sublime terrestrial beauty. No lack of royal sport has ever been reported by the thousands who have sought for it here.

Specially fine hotel accommodations are in large supply, and the transits by stages from Truckee and from Carson require but a short time and are full of interest. Ladies are always present, adding social attractions to the more robust ones of lake and mountain. The surpass-

BARRACUDA.
Sphyræna argentea.

ing excellence of the fishing overshadows all other interests, but fine sport may be had with the gun. Sagehens, grouse, quail, ducks, plover, snipe and squirrels are reasonably abundant, and bear and deer not difficult to find.

The flora of Lake Tahoe on its arborescent side is of surprising wealth. Here is an abbreviated list: white, sugar, yellow and nut pine,

MACKEREL.
Scomber vulgaris.

douglas and hemlock spruce, tamarack and laurel, with oaks, maples, poplars, madronas, buckeyes and a great variety of flowering shrubs. To fish the waters of Lake Tahoe, and with dog and gun traverse the resinous conifer forests that clothe the encompassing mountain sides, would richly repay a transatlantic and transcontinental trip.

MONTEREY.

This is *the* fashionable resort of the Pacific Coast, of which experienced travelers write, "If you can visit but one place in California, let that one be Hotel del Monte at Monterey." It is no part of the purpose of this paper to speak in detail of caravansaries, except in so far as they may be tributary to the better enjoyment of sports by field, flood, and stream. It is, however, simply impossible to say anything of Monterey and its attractions without some mention of the central feature that gilds all the rest. Monterey is 126 miles from San Francisco by

SALMON.
Salmo quinnat.

rail of Southern Pacific Company, and the distance covered in less than four hours. This historic town, around which circles most of the early ecclesiastical and political movements of California, rests on elevated ground at the southern shoulder of the bay of Monterey, whose noble waters extend northwesterly a distance of fifty miles to the city of Santa Cruz, and from earliest recorded time have been noted for the abundance, variety and excellence of their fish. They teem with salmon that have followed the coast line southward from British Columbia and Oregon. Here they stop; none are taken by anglers at any point south of Monterey. This bay has piscine attractions that seem irresistible. The most important of these, no doubt, is the abundant fish food, drawing to it all varieties of coast-line and deep-sea fish, and to these, cetacea may be added. The catch of

whales amounts to scores each year, often witnessed by spectators on the elevated beach. In numbers and sporting value, salmon lead the list, and are followed by barracuda, bonito, cod, mackerel, pampino, rock fish, king-fish, tunney, smelt and sardines. Most of these, except the tunney, which sometimes reach a weight of more than 300 pounds, are taken by pole and line; but some of them are by market fishers entrapped in nets. The best approved method is by trolling, and the richest waters are from one to three miles from shore. The character of the bay is notably pacific, and is nearly always smooth as the proverbial mill-

STRIPED BASS.

Labrax linneatus.

pond. The usual catch to a three-hour troll for salmon would be from five to ten, aggregating from 75 to 150 pounds in weight, with proportionate fortune when other gamy fish are sought. Experienced boatmen with craft suitable for the service and all necessary appliances can be engaged on reasonable terms. With the gun, satisfactory sport can be had on the marshes for water fowl, plover, snipe and rail, and elsewhere for quail, pigeons, doves and larks.

In the background rise the noble Santa Lucia mountains, celebrated for wild sublimity, game and abundant trout water, including the rivers Carmel and Big and Little Sur. Deer are to be had and in unfrequented places bear are not only common, but very plentiful. The arboreal flora of Monterey is specially attractive. Notably so the Monterey pine and the famous cypress, of which a most remarkable growth

may be found at Cypress Point. Hardly less wonderful are the live oaks—modest monarchs that had reached a ripe maturity before Columbus sailed from Palos—their low-lying branches, each larger than the bole of an ordinary tree, extend outward for scores of feet, now and again dropping some sturdy arm to earth support, like the banyan of Asia, except that the arm throws down no roots.

SMELT.
Osmerus Eperlanus.

POMPANO.
Trachynotus Carolinus.

TOM COD.
Morrkua Fruinosa.

SEA BASS.
Centropristis atrarins.

SANTA CRUZ.

Santa Cruz is only eighty miles by Southern Pacific Company's rail from San Francisco, and for many reasons has at all times been a place of popular resort from the metropolis. Sportsmen are especially welcome and are made to feel that they are so. It offers great variety of scenery of valley and mountain, woodland and plain, ocean beach and running brooks, and can easily induce a second visit by huntsman or angler. The bay fishing at Santa Cruz is almost identical with that at Monterey, and the troller can calculate with certainty on all the salmon and other ocean and estuary fish he may desire. Exceptional catches of salmon are sometimes made reaching twenty-five or thirty of an aggregate weight of 350 pounds to a single day of rod and line, but the sportsman can be certain at all times of reasonable success. Fine trout streams in the moun-

SEA PIKE.
Esox marinus.

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS.

Tibbets Photo.

tains are within easy reach. A specially excellent resort reached by Southern Pacific Company's trains to Boulder Creek, and thence by trails ten miles to Big Basin; and also in Boulder Creek and Los Gatos Creek; stops for these can be made at Los Gatos or Wrights or other convenient stations. Water-fowl and marsh-land birds, quail, pigeons, doves, larks and squirrels are plentiful. Deer may be found in favorable places. At Big Tree station, by rail six miles from Santa Cruz, is a remarkable grove of redwoods. These are carefully preserved and have historic interest. The valleys and lower hills are agreeably clothed in oaks, pines, laurel, madrona and buckeye, and the mountains and their ravines and canyons with a dense growth of noble redwoods madronas and laurels.

SALMON.
Salmo quinnat.

SHASTA COUNTY.

UPPER SACRAMENTO, PITT, AND McCLOUD RIVERS AND CATHEDRAL
AND OTHER LAKES.

So far as the general world of sportsmen in its higher walks is concerned, no introduction to regal Mount Shasta and its kingdom is needed; but for benefit of new arrivals in this Pacific sporting field, it may be said that this incomparable region is traversed for 100 miles by the Shasta route of Southern Pacific Company, beginning at Redding, 260 miles from San Francisco, and extending thence northward to Edgewood and beyond. On this line, Sims is about midway, and is a point

much used for divergence by trail to choice sporting lands and waters on the Sacramento and its affluents.

Castle Crag is also a popular stopping place, due largely to the fine accommodations and cultivated society of Castle Crag Tavern, the pleasure of these being made to supplement and fully round up those of field and stream.

Sisson, twenty-one miles farther north, rests on one of the buttresses of Mount Shasta and a favorite point of departure for its ascent. Here

BLACK BEAR.
Ursus americanus.

Tibbets Photo.

and everywhere for more than one hundred encircling miles the scenery is sublime in the highest degree. A dense growth of towering conifers forms a verdant setting for Mount Shasta and its glacial snows. Ice-cold translucent lakes and streams of hurrying waters are to be met in lavish profusion, all—all teeming with every variety of gamy salmon and trout; the Rainbow, Cut-throat, McCloud River [*Salmo gairdneri shasta*],

No-Shee [*Salmo irideus stonei*], Dolly Varden, Eastern Brook, Loch Leven [*Salmo trutta leuensis*] and Steel-head [*Salmo gairdneri*]. This regal list is by no means drawn from a romancing imagination, but invoices the contents of creels and names the fish in waiting for the angler's skill. While reasonable sport may be had in waters flowing near the railway and its stations, more satisfactory results follow in the

MCCLOUD RIVER.

footsteps of a camping trip, with pack and riding animals and competent guide. In this nomadic way most bountiful lakes can be visited, and shady streams where the fish will compete for the lures you may offer. The cost of such a trip for each participant will be from ten dollars to twenty dollars per week, to be paid by you to the guide, who will furnish transportation facilities and all needful supplies and will act as cook and keeper of the camp.

Royal sport with the gun can be fitly sandwiched with that of rod and line. Bear are frequently seen, still more so deer, grouse, pigeons, quail, ducks and squirrels. It was forbidden to muzzle the corn-treading ox. The sportsman should feast on the captives of his skill. At close of day quail on toast to follow Rainbow trout, and in turn to be followed by fragrant Mocha, and the captivating Cuban leaf might tempt Lucullus to leave his stale banquet.

YELLOW-TAIL.

Waite Photo.

Seriola gigas.

(282 lbs.—the catch of one day with rod and reel.)

SANTA MONICA AND PORT LOS ANGELES.

Good fishing sport in surf and by trolling has never been wanting at Santa Monica, and being only seventeen miles by rail of Southern Pacific Company from Los Angeles, the southern metropolis, with frequent trains, has heretofore been much resorted to. Pampino and other

YELLOW-TAIL.
Seriola gigas.

Waite Photo.

PERCH OR SALMON GROUPER.
Serranus.

Waite Photo

ROCK COD.
Morrhua.

valuable fish were caught near shore, and the troller could secure all the varieties of deep-water fish obtainable elsewhere in southern waters. Now, however, a new and greatly prized attraction is gained by the construction of Port Los Angeles wharf, extending beyond the surf line to deep water, placing the angler in the midst of his game. With rod or with hand-line most satisfactory sport can be enjoyed from the outer end of the wharf, 4700 feet from shore. Fish can be caught at all seasons, but are most abundant in warm weather. The use of rod, reel and line is much more popular than the hand-line; but for very large fish, weighing ten to forty pounds, with all except the skilled the hand-line becomes a necessity. The varieties caught from the wharf

SMELT.

Waite Photo.

Osmerus eperlanus.

include smelt, rock-bass, rock-cod, flounders, halibut, tom-cod, mackerel, yellow-fin and yellow-tail, sea trout, sea-bass, perch, pampino and sculpin, and by trolling from boat, bonita, barracuda, rock-bass, sea-bass and yellow tail. About six miles northward by the Coast line a fine canyon may be found, with good trout streams for the angler, and deer, quail, doves, larks and ducks in great abundance for the gun.

Hotel Arcadia offers pleasant headquarters to the sportsman and his family who may suitably witness and partake of his enjoyments.

SANTA CATALINA ISLAND.

This marvelous sea-fishing resort is reached from Los Angeles by Southern Pacific Company's San Pedro line of twenty-two miles, and thence by steamboat about the same distance to Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island. Experts have reported that these waters are unrivaled for sea-fish sporting. The island seems to have been a fashionable resort

JEW FISH OF SANTA CATALINA.

Waite Photo.

for fish long ages before it became such for the nobler race that sports with them. The waters, some of them, are always land-locked and quiet. Sitting in your boat on their unruffled surface, the bottom that lies thirty to sixty feet below you appears to be within easy reach of your arm. Fish of all colors, sizes, and degrees of table excellence may be seen awaiting your skill. The favorite method is by trolling, and you will catch specimens of all Pacific Coast varieties except the salmon, which, having a decided preference for glacial seas, stops short in its migrations whenever the temperature shows a notable rise. It is by

FLYING FISH—SANTA CATALINA ISLAND.

Waite Photo,

Exocoetidae calopterus.

no means an uncommon achievement to hook and land a fish whose weight exceeds that of the captor. Not infrequently a day's catch of yellowtail and other desirable fish will aggregate a weight of 250 pounds—sometimes rising to those figures twice told.

A visit to Santa Catalina Island will give a new experience to the veteran angler no less than to the novice. For the gun wild goats, quail and other birds can be had.

WILD GOAT—SANTA CATALINA ISLAND.

Walte Photo.

Capra.

OBLIGATIONS ACKNOWLEDGED.

In the preparation of this paper much valuable assistance has been received from artists, and there has been a purpose to make a permanent record of it in each case; but thanks in such form cannot be given to others who have taken a lively interest in the work, and without whose help it could have attained no measure of excellence. Of these should be named *The Honorable Board of Fish Commissioners of the State of California*, whose admirable files of press articles, covering all the game resorts of the State, were freely opened to inspection, and as well its cases of mounted specimens.

To Professor David Starr Jordan, acting as President of the Academy of Science, unstinted praise is due for freely opening its valuable avifauna cases to facilitate the art work of the paper.

To Mr. J. R. Chace, the well-known publican and sportsman of Santa Cruz, the publishers and readers are indebted for the fine illustration of salmon. Upon a telegraphic suggestion to him that a sample was wanted for the camera he at once went out upon the bay and thereafter expressed to San Francisco the choicest specimen of a catch that exceeded half a score. Anglers desiring royal sport should make his acquaintance.

To Mr. H. E. Skinner of 416 Market Street, San Francisco, thanks are due for valuable specimens and still more valuable facts, given by him for benefit of brother sportsmen.

To Mr. J. B. Inguglia, Manager of American Union Fish Company, for his intelligent zeal in search of specimens of rare marine forms of fish.

To H. Liebes & Co. of San Francisco, for noble specimens of fur-bearing carnivora.

GAME AND FISH LAWS OF CALIFORNIA.

Sportsmen will do well to make a note of the following quotations from the Statutes of California, placing certain limitations on their right to kill or to have in possession as follows :

Valley Quail	}	May be killed, beginning October 15th and closing February 15th of the following year.
Bob White		
Partridge		
Robin		
Wild Duck		
Rail	}	

Mountain Quail	}	May be killed, beginning August 15th and closing February 15th following.
Grouse		

Doves	}	May be killed, beginning July 1st and closing February 15th, next following.

SALES of any of the above allowed only from November 15th to January 15th next following.

Male Deer may be killed, beginning July 15th and closing October 15th.

Female Deer	}	Killing prohibited at all times.
Spotted fawn		
Antelope		
Elk		
Mountain Sheep		
Humming Birds and all Song Birds		

Mongolian Pheasants	}	Killing unlawful for three years from March 27th, 1895.

Trout	}	Must not be taken except with hook and line, and from April 1st to November 1st of the same year.

Steel-head Trout	}	May be taken in tide water, with rod and line at all times.

Striped Bass } Must not be taken of a weight less than 3 pounds, nor
with nets of less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ inch mesh.

Salmon } Must not be taken by seines in public waters between sunrise
Shad } of each Saturday and sunset of the following Sunday ;
Striped Bass } nor must such seine have meshes smaller than $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Salmon } Must not be taken between the thirty-first day of August and
the first day of the following November.

Sturgeon } May be taken, beginning September 1st and ending March 31st
of the following year ; but must not at any time be taken
of a size less than three feet in length.

Lobster } May be taken, beginning July 15th and ending May 15th of
Crawfish } following year.

Shotguns of larger caliber than 10-gauge are prohibited to be used or in possession in any field or marsh.

Sportsmen should understand that the above laws extend to all parts of the State, but that the privileges granted may be narrowed by action of counties within the limits of such—may be narrowed, but not broadened. It will be prudent to examine the local laws touching any resort to be visited.

Persons desiring more of detail in regard to matters herein treated, or of extended information concerning California, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona or New Mexico, can readily obtain the same by calling upon or addressing the undernamed:

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