

R
COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS,

ACT MARCH 3D, 1871.

No. 21415

H. 212

CLAIM

OF

Lydia Baker

OF

Liberty Co

State of

Georgia

SUMMARY REPORT.

Amount Allowed, \$ 55.00

SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS

December 20 1875

Raymond Bay Jr
Savannah Ga

No. 21.415
 The Claim of Lydia Baker (col'd), of Liberty Co., in the State of Georgia

No. of ITEM.	DESCRIPTION.	AMOUNT CLAIMED.		AMOUNT ALLOWED.		AMOUNT DISALLOWED.	
		Dollars.	Cts.	Dollars.	Cts.	Dollars.	Cts.
1 ✓	40 Bushels of Corn -	60.	00	25	00	35	00
2 ✓	5 Hogs -	25.	00	25	00	—	—
3 ✓	1 jar of Lard -	5.	00	5	00	—	—
4 ✓	Clothing -	5.	00	—	—	5	00
5 ✓	10 Chickens -	5.	00	—	—	5	00
		\$ 100.	00	55	00	45	00

The claimant, a colored woman formerly a slave, over 70, says - "I worked by tasks for my master & at some time to work for myself," "He dropped me down to a half hour before he died."

Item 1. - She says - "I put it at 10 bushels, but I know I had more than that. I think it was a mistake in putting it down 40 bushels. I never had so much as that."

Who put it down 40 bushels? -

Item 2. "I only said I had 4 hogs. My attorney made the mistake - not me."

Item 4. "They didn't take my clothing - only a blanket"

" 5. "They didn't take any cooking utensils - they took some money right out of my pocket -
 A very honest old woman.

We allow \$55.00

A. D. Aldis.

W. Howell

O. Ferris

Comrs
 of
 Claims

21.415 - Mch. 3/73
No. _____ 187.

PETITION

OF
Sydia Baker

TO THE
COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS.

Residence of Claimant *Liberty
County, Ga.*

Nature of Claim *Quartermaster*

& Commissary Supplies

Amount claimed, \$ *100.00*

FILED BY

*Raymond C. ...
Savannah, Ga.*

Fowell, Ginok & Co., 632 F St., Wash'n, D. C

PETITION.

To the Honorable Commissioners of Claims,
Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1871, Washington, D. C.:

The Petition of ⁽¹⁾ *Sydia Baker*

respectfully represents:

That she is a citizen of the United States, and reside at present at or near
⁽²⁾ *Wm. S. Baker's plantation*
and that she resided when this claim accrued at or near ⁽³⁾ *Wm. S. Baker's
plantation*

That she had a claim against the United States for property ⁽⁴⁾ *taken*
for the use of the army of the United States during the late rebellion at (or near) *Medway
Church in Liberty County, Ga.*
in the county of _____, and State of _____

That the said claim, stated by items, and excluding any and all items of damage, destruction,
and loss, (and not use,) of property; of unauthorized or unnecessary depredations by troops and
other persons upon property, or of rent or compensation for the use or occupation of buildings, grounds,
or other real estate, is as follows:

No. of Item	QUANTITIES AND ARTICLES.	VALUE.
1	40 head Cows	\$ 60.00
2	1 head Hogs	25.00
3	1 par. Lamb	5.00
4	1 blacking suiting Tr	5.00
5	10 chickens	5.00
Total,		100.00

Note 1. Give full names of all the petitioners.
2. Give the residence of each petitioner.
3. Give the former residence of each petitioner.
4. "Taken," or "furnished."

That the property in question was taken or furnished for the use of a portion of the army of the United States, known as (5) Millpatrick's Cavalry and commanded by Genl Millpatrick and that the persons who took or received the property, or who authorized or directed it to be taken or furnished, were the following:

NAME	RANK	CO.	Regiment, Corps or Station.

That the property was removed to (6) Medway Church, Liberty Co. Ga. and used for or by (7) all this on or about the 20th day of December, in the year 1864.

That (8) no voucher, receipt, or other writing, was given for the property

That your petitioner verily believe that the property described was (9) taken under the following circumstances, or one or more of such circumstances, viz:

1. For the actual use of the army, and not for the mere gratification of individual officers or soldiers already provided by the Government with such articles as were necessary or proper for them to have.
2. In consequence of the failure of the troops of the United States to receive from the Government in the customary manner, or to have in their possession at the time, the articles and supplies necessary for them or which they were entitled to receive and have.
3. In consequence of some necessity for the articles taken, or similar articles; which necessity justified the officers or soldiers taking them.
4. For some purpose so necessary, useful, beneficial and available as to warrant or require the Government to pay for it.
5. Under the order or authority of some officer, or other person connected with the army whose rank, situation, duties, or other circumstances at the time authorized, empowered, or justified him in taking or receiving it, or ordering it to be taken or received.

That (10) Lydia Baker of Liberty County, Georgia was the original owner of said claim, and that Lydia Baker of Liberty County, Georgia, is the present owner of the same (11)

That your petitioner remained loyally adherent to the cause and the Government of the United States during the war, and was loyal before and at the time of the taking of the property for which this claim is made, and she solemnly declares that, from the beginning of hostilities against the United States to the end thereof, her sympathies were constantly with the cause of the United States; that she never, of her own free will and accord, did anything, or offered, or sought, or attempted to do anything, by word or deed, to injure said cause or retard its success, and that she was at all times ready and willing, when called upon, or if called upon, to aid and assist the cause of the Union, or its supporters, so far as her means and power, and the circumstances of the case, permitted.

- Note 5. Describe the organization as fully and particularly as possible.
6. State as well as can be done the place to which the property was conveyed.
 7. State as fully and minutely as possible, the particular persons or commands using the property, and to what particular uses it was applied or intended to be applied.
 8. If any vouchers or written papers were given, attach the originals or copies, or state where the originals are to be found and give the substance of them.
 9. "Taken" or "furnished."
 10. The loyalty of the owner of the property when taken or furnished, and of all persons having a present beneficial interest in the claim, must be established by proof.
 11. If any other persons than the original owner now own or have an interest in the claim, state how such ownership or interest was acquired.

That said claim has not before been presented to (12) any Branch of the United States Government,

That Raymond Cayer Jr. is hereby authorized and empowered to act as Attorney for the prosecution of this claim.

Wherefore your petitioner pray for such action of your Honorable Commission in the premises as may be deemed just and proper.

Witness: Wm D Cayer (13) Lydia Baker mark

STATE OF Georgia
COUNTY OF Liberty

(14) Lydia Baker being duly sworn (15)

deposes and says, that he is the petitioner named in the foregoing petition and who is the same; that the matters therein stated are true, of the deponent's own knowledge, except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and as to those matters he believes them to be true; and deponent further says that he did not voluntarily serve in the Confederate army or navy, either as an officer, soldier, or sailor, or in any other capacity, at any time during the late rebellion; that he never voluntarily furnished any stores, supplies, or other material aid to said Confederate army or navy, or to the Confederate government, or to any officer, department or adherent of the same in support thereof, and that he never voluntarily accepted or exercised the functions of any office whatsoever under, or yielded voluntary support to, the said Confederate government.

Witness: Wm D Cayer Lydia Baker mark

Sworn and subscribed in my presence, the 26th day of February 1873
John C. Hardin, S. J. P. [L. S.]

Names and residences of witnesses who will be relied upon to prove loyalty:
Lucy McIVER, Liberty Co. Ga.
Olivia James, " " " "
John McIVER, " " " "

Names and residences of witnesses who will be relied upon to prove the other facts alleged in the foregoing petition:
Lucy McIVER, Liberty Co. Ga.
Olivia James, " " " "
John McIVER, " " " "

Post office address of claimant Waynes Liberty Co., Ga.
Post office address of attorney Savannah, Ga.

- NOTE 12. If the claim has heretofore been presented to any branch of the Government, state when and where presented, and what action was taken upon it.
13. Claimants sign here.
 14. Give the names of all the petitioners.
 15. If more than one petitioner, insert the words, "each for himself." and in the next line insert "one of" in the proper blanks.

-10

No. 21415

CLAIM

Lydia Baber
Sirat Co

\$ 100

APPLICATION
TO HAVE TESTIMONY TAKEN
 BY SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

Filed 9
 Raymond C. ...
 Receiver

Alfred
March

Refer to
the record

DIRECTIONS.

- NOTE 1.—Insert number of the Claim.
 2.—"Taken" or "furnished."
 3.—Describe the military organization by name as fully and particularly as possible.
 4.—State as well as can be done, the place to which the property was conveyed for the use of the army.
 5.—State as fully and minutely as is possible, the particular persons or commands using the property, and to what particular use it was applied.
 6.—The claimant's name should be signed here, either by himself or his attorney.

No. 21415

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS OF CLAIMS,

Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1871.

In the matter of the Claim of Lydia Baber (cc)
 of Georgia, in the County of Sirat
 and State of Georgia

Comes now the claimant, before Raymond C. ... Esq.,
 Special Commissioner for the State of Georgia, and
 represents that he has heretofore filed with the above named Commissioners a
 petition for the allowance of a claim for property lost for the use of
 the army of the United States, which claim, as stated below, does not exceed the
 sum of five thousand dollars.

That the said claim, stated by items, and excluding therefrom all such items
 as refer to the DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, and LOSS, and not the USE, of property;
 to unauthorized or unnecessary DEPREDATIONS of troops and other persons upon
 the property, or to RENT or compensation for the occupation of buildings, grounds,
 or other real estate, is as follows:

No. of Item	QUANTITIES AND ARTICLES.	VALUE.	
		Dolls.	Cts.
1	40 Bush Corn	60	
2	5 head hog	25	
4	4 pair Cattle	100	
	1 Cow	5	
Total.		100	

2 Hog 200-60 400 to 100 4000
 7 " in pen 200 " 100 2000
 1 " in lot 50-100 5000
 20 Bush Corn 50 5000
 50 # S... 100 5000
 \$88.00

That, as stated in the petition referred to the property in question was taken from or furnished by Sydia Baker of Volunt. Co. 1st Regt. Ill. Inf., in the State of Illinois, for the use of a portion of the army of the United States, known as the 1st Army, and commanded by Genl. Sigel and that the persons who took or received the property, or who authorized or directed it to be taken or furnished, were the following:

NAME.	RANK.	CO.	Regiment, Corps or Station.

That the property was removed to (4) Madison and used for or by (5) Sigel's Army; all this on or about the 15 day of Dec, in the year 1862 as appears by the petition presented to the Commissioners.

That by the following named persons, the claimant expects to prove that, from the beginning of hostilities against the United States to the end thereof, his sympathies were constantly with the cause of the United States; that he never, of his own free will and accord, did anything, or offered, or sought, or attempted to do anything, by word or deed, to injure said cause or retard its success, and that he was at all times ready and willing, when called upon, or if called upon, to aid and assist the cause of the Union, or its supporters, so far as his means and power, and the circumstances of the case, permitted.

Lucy McGinnis of Volunt. Co. 1st Regt. Ill. Inf.
Eliza Davis of _____
Jessie McGinnis of _____
 _____ of _____
 _____ of _____

That, by the following named persons, the claimant expects to prove the taking or furnishing of the property for the use of the army of the United States:

_____ of _____
 _____ of _____
John A. Brown of _____
 _____ of _____
 _____ of _____
 _____ of _____

The claimant now prays that the testimony of the witnesses just designated be taken and recorded, at such place and at such time as the Special Commissioner may designate, at the reasonable cost of the said claimant; and that due notice of the time and place of the taking thereof be given to the Claimant, or to his counsel.

Submitted on this 1st day of Nov, 1873

Sydia Baker Claimant.
Raymond C. Taylor Attorney.

P. O. Address of Attorney:

Raymond C. Taylor
Richmond
Ill.



Before the Commissioners of Claims.

ACT OF CONGRESS, MARCH 3, 1871.

Case of Sydney Baker, Col.
No. 21415



It is hereby certified, that on the 20th day of March,
at Waco, Tex., in the county of Schley,
State of Texas, personally came before me the following
persons, viz:

Sydney Baker Claimant,
..... Counsel, or Attorney,
and Lucy Newcomb
Sydney Hallman
..... Claimant's Witnesses,

for the purpose of a hearing in the above entitled cause.
Each and every deponent, previous to his or her examination, was properly
and duly sworn or affirmed by me to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
but the truth, concerning the matters under examination; and the testimony of
each deponent was written out by me, or in my presence, and as given before me,
and subsequently read over to said deponent, by whom it was also subscribed in my
presence.

Witness my hand and seal this 20th day of March,
1874.
Virgil Kilgus
Special Commissioner of the Commissioners of Claims.

Deposition of Sydney Baker

In answer to the First General Interrogatory, the Deponent says:
My name is Sydney Baker, my age over 40
years, my residence Waco, Tex., in the State of
Texas, and my occupation a farmer;
I am related to the claimant,
and have a beneficial interest in the claim.

[NOTE: The Claimant should always be first examined when present, in which case the words "related to" as printed immediately above, should be stricken out.]

Sydney Baker } Before Special Commissioner
75 } Virgil Kilgus
United States } At Waco, Tex.
I have no further testimony to offer in the above case & it is respectfully submitted to the Commissioners of Claims for their consideration & decision
Raymond Layton
Claimant's Atty

1
 Lydia Baker, Col } Before the
 Ms. } Special Commission
 United States } at Richburg, Ga.

Memorandum of claimant on loyalty.

1 I was born in Liberty Co. Ga. I am over
 70 years old. I live in Richburg, Ga.
 I work with my horse & have been all
 the winter bedding & listing ground.
 I am the claimant in this case.
 In 1861 I lived on the same place
 and have always lived there since.
 I was his slave during the war & work
 ing for him. He was my master.

34 4. Servant

5 I didn't take any colts at all.

6 \$800 each and every one of them being
 separately put the claimant's name on.

29 I never had any chance to help the
 Yankees until they came here and
 when they came they didn't call on
 me to help them and so I didn't do
 anything.

30 39. No each and every question being
 separately put the claimant's name on.

40 At the beginning of the war I felt very
 glad I told my friends that I was
 very glad that the Yankees were win-
 ning - I was alive on the Yankee
 side - all the time.

4 41 In conclusion I do solemnly declare
 that from the beginning of the war
 against the U. S. to the end thereof my
 sympathies were constantly with the
 cause of the Union, that I never at any
 one time will and accorded compliance
 or offered or sought or attempted to do
 anything by word or deed to impede
 said cause or retard its success and
 that I was at all times ready and will
 ing when or if called upon to aid and
 assist the cause of the Union to the
 best of my means and power and the
 circumstances of the case permitted.

42 At the beginning of the war I was a
 slave and became free since the
 Yankees came here. After I became
 free I went right on farming.
 I raised the hogs from a pig that
 been raising them all my life. I
 raised them all since all the time.
 I own William Baker's slave, & when he
 died & Mrs. Mathews moved out to his
 place & I belonged to him. I was
 then his slave & work one day in the week
 for him & have all the land I can
 work for myself - I don't owe him any
 thing. His property all belonged to me
 & no one else has any interest in it.



I worked by, washed for my master
and could save time to work for myself
He dropped ^{me} down to half hand because
he died. I had things enough to sell
these things after words he paid me
satisfactory money for my services
very good to the black people,
Witness -



Amey, Middleington, Lydia & Baker
male

Sworn to and subscribed before me
Virgil Hillyer
Special Commissioner
State of Georgia

Testimony of Lucy Mc Gowan
loyalty
I was born in Liberty Co. Ga. on Thomas
Flemming's place. I became free the
12th Tuesday of Dec. when the Yankees
came on the plantation. My master
was John Mallard. I am 60 yrs. old. I know Lydia Baker
lives on John Mallard's place. I
am a farmer. I know no one by the
name Baker who belonged to the same
master. I have no interest in her
claim. I have known her a long time
I knew her all through the war. She

6 cooked for them ^(the Yankees) after they came here.
She was a good Union woman
Witness
Amey, Middleington, Lucy Mc Gowan
female

Sworn to and subscribed before me
Virgil Hillyer
Special Commissioner
State of Ga.

Testimony of Lydia Mallard
loyalty

1 I was born on Mr. Mallard's place in
Liberty Co. Ga. I was a slave until my
freedom when the Yankees came my
master was John S. Mallard. I am
30 yrs. old. I live on Mr. Mallard's
place, 6 miles from Kibben's farm
Flemming. I know Lydia Baker
she belonged to the same man. I
do not know her. I have no interest in
her claim. I have known her since
I was a small girl. I lived close to
on the same place. I did not see her
4 nights. I heard her name. I do not
know when she was born. I do not
know when she died. I do not know
if she did anything for the Yankees when
they came here. She always used her

influence on the Yankee side when she could - we would get across what, then we could not if we were not careful - she was a good Union woman & tried to the Union cause



Sworn to and subscribed before me
Virgil Hildred
Special Commissioner
State of Georgia

Sworn to and subscribed before me
Virgil Hildred
Special Commissioner
State of Georgia

Sydia Baker (col) } Before the
vs. } Special Commission
United States } at Nicolson Ga.



Testimony of Claimant on property
I was there when the property was taken
I saw them take the property, corn, land
& blankets & goods.

3. They just said that they had come to
fire us - they just took us no notice
think hard of it - for if they did not
the owners would come and take them
& that we would get them back again
I would rather they would have them
than the owners.

4. It was taken on Mrs. Baker's plantation
at my home; a week before Christmas
when the Yankees came, they were taken
by the Yankee soldiers of Sherman's
Army - they all were on horses - the
whole place was filled up with people.
They kept coming & going & did not take
them all in one day.

5. Elijah James & Susan McTear & James
McTear was their.

6. There were officers there, I couldn't
tell what kind they ordered the soldiers
to take the property.

7. They shot the logs in the pen & outside
& I know logs I had inside and

10 They took the corn from my house
one after another came in until they
had taken all - they took the part of
corn in their hands.

8 They carried it away on horses.

7 They went to and in the morning
I did not follow them.

10 I know they carried it to eat. I did
see them using any of it they carried
it right off.

11 I didn't make any complaint.

12 I didn't ask for any vouchers or receipts.

13 They took them in the day time, all
time in the day.

14 They camped in the yard behind my
house but they were incamped at their meet-
ing house when they took my property.
It was Sherman's Army. I reckon they
staid in camp about 2 wks. I didn't
know the quartermasters or their
officers.

15 The property was in their hands except
2 boxes.

16 I know that I put in about 10 bushels
but I know I had more than that.
I think it was a mistake in putting
it down 40 bushels - I never had so
much as that - I know I had more
than 10 bushels of shelled corn.



Stems No. 2. I had 4 head of hog
I had just killed - they were very
fat 2 yrs old hogs - they would
weigh all of 400 lbs. the one the
other was a piglet about 200 lbs. the
other was a piglet about 100 lbs. I
didn't know the farmer who owned
them.

Stems No. 3 & 4. I had about a 4
jar of lard - It was the fat of 2
I had killed. I don't know where
they I know the jar was full. They
didn't take any clothing - only a
It was white woolen. I had used some
before but it was not good.
Stems No. 5. They took some of my
utensils - they took some money
out of my pocket - they took some
of chickens from me.

17 18, passed.

19 They never paid me anything for the prop-
erty. This is the first and only claim I made.

Witness:
James Middlebrooke
Svorn to and subscribed before me
Virgil Killebrew
Special Commissioner
State of Georgia

Testimony of Lucy Mc Don (col) on property.

- 1 I was present when the property was taken.
- 2 I saw them take the horses, corn, etc.
- 3 They said that all that was in the house I saw will give you back they said they wanted it to eat & feed the horses then they went on & took it all.
- 4 This property was taken at Lyza's house on John Mallard's place, they were taken on a Wednesday in Dec when the Yankees came here. Sherman's army took the property, they took it all in one day.
- 5 I was there & Jane Miggins & others were on the plantation - I can't tell who else was there. Lyza Babier was there.
- 6 There were some officers there, I can't hear any orders given, I didn't know what kind of officers there were.
- 7 They killed the horses & took the corn & one they took the corn, & eggs & other things.
- 8 They took them on horses & in wagons.
- 9 They went down the road, I didn't follow them, they went in that direction.
- 10 I suppose they took it to eat & feed the horses.



- 1 I didn't hear any complaint made.
- 2 I didn't hear her ask for any vouchers or receipt.
- 3 The property was taken in the day.
- 4 I don't know where the property was taken, it was taken in the night, it was called Sherman's army, they were cooking & eating in the night, we could hear them at our house, they gathered up all they could through the country - they took it all down the road towards Midway.
- 5 The property was all in good order, all grain harvested.
- 6 I don't know where she had the butter, I think they were very poor, I expect the butter weighed 200 lbs, not more, she had a saw in the pen, I think she would weigh 100 lbs, & one out with the lot, about 50 lbs weight.
- 7 I don't know where she had the corn, I think she had about 40 bushels of corn in the ear, I think I don't know how much she planted, she had a master, she was living in the quarters, I don't know where she lived, she had a lot of corn altogether with what she sowed, about 40 bushels of corn, I think so.
- 8 I don't know where she had the large jar of corn.

14 It was full, from the 2 bags - they
took one blanket from them. I don't
think they took any cooking utensils
either.

Lucy McVernon
Special Agent

Sworn to and subscribed before me

Virgil Killip
Special Agent
State of Iowa

Returning of Lydia Wallhouse (see)
on property.

1. I was present when this property was
taken.
2. I saw them take the corn, hay, and
& one blanket.
3. They just asked if we ever saw the Yan-
kees & we said yes. & they said well
we are the Yankees now. Then they
went ahead & took the things.
4. These things were taken at Westfall's
place and at Mrs. Baker's house. They
were taken on Tuesday night. The
house was taken by the
Dan's & Kipsticks army. There were so
many I cannot count them. It appears
a few hours there.
5. There were present Lucy McVernon, Steven
Stevens, Eliza James & Janie Muzgler.



- 4
6. There were officers there, they just told
them to get the corn. I think there was
a lieutenant there. I don't ^{know} his name.
 7. They put the corn in sacks from their
cobs. They killed & cut up the horses & fed
them to the horses.
 8. They put them on horses. They didn't
have wagons.
 9. They carried it to the church. I could
hear the noise from our house.
 10. They fed the horse with them & the
other things. I suppose they took to eat.
They fed them while they were cooking.
 11. I didn't hear any complaints made.
 12. I didn't hear any order or words
asked for.
 13. The property was taken in the day and
in the afternoon they didn't take it
secretly.
 14. The army was encamped at Midway
church about 2 miles off. It was the
patrol's & Sherman's army. They stayed
there about 2 weeks. They took the
things while they were encamped there.
I didn't know any of the officers.
 15. The property was in good order.
 16. How do I She had 40 bushels of
corn. I saw it measured - it was 40
bushels of ears. I don't know how much

16

she had planted us corn -
 Item No. 2. She had 4 head of pigs -
 2 meat hogs - they were large & fat - one
 would weigh about 150 lbs. She also had
 2 other I saw them piglets - 2 more killed.
 She shows about it & the piglets were
 were I running out they killed them
 & carried them off. they took the meat
 off on their horses.

Item No. 3. She had one pair of plow
 was a done pair, a good large one -
 don't know what it would hold - I was
 the land from the 2 hogs that she had
 killed - they just took one of the best pen
 her. I didn't see them take any clothes
 or any cooking things. These things all
 belonged to Lydia Baker. I was staying
 right there & knew what she had.

Witnesses
 Amos Muddlingham Lydia Baker
 mark
 Virgil Kelly
 Special Commissioner
 State of Georgia

[LAST PAGE.]

REMARKS BY THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Respectfully Submitted

Virgil Kelly
 Special Commissioner
 State of Georgia

Claim No. 41,212

Sett. No. 1266

Lydia Baker of
Ga.

\$55.00

Due her

OUT OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR

"Claims of Loyal Citizens for Supplies furnished
during the rebellion."

For amount allowed her
by the Southern Claims Com-
mission.

Reported Oct. 11, 1876.

Returned " 14, 1876.

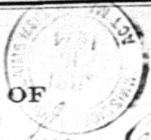
Requisition No. 1339, dated

Oct 23, 1876, transmitted for

Warrant Oct 26, 1876.

\$55.

No. 21415



CLAIM OF

Sydia Barber

OF

Liberty County,
State of *Va.*

\$ *100.00*

TESTIMONY OF

Page.

Sydia Barber
Mary McEvers
Capt. H. H. ...

June 13/74
TAKEN BEFORE

Virgil H. ...
Special Commissioner.
State of *Va.*

James ...
of *Richmond*
Attorneys.

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L