

HISTORY'S RESTING PLACE: BARNHILL CEMETERY, BROUGHTY FERRY

By Captain John J Watson OBE

This paper is included in the papers on Broughty Ferry as an example of how there remain many aspects of the history of Broughty Ferry and its residents which still remain to be uncovered with the help of the internet and unpublished sources.

Strathmore Street forms the southern boundary of Barnhill Cemetery and if you look through the railings near the east end of the cemetery you will see a gravestone that boasts a little plaque which has pinned to the ground before it a US Confederate flag. The names that appear on the gravestone- James and Harriet Duff- hint at a remarkable story of how two sides in conflict ended up together in marriage: and how the American Civil War comes to be remembered here in Broughty Ferry.





Harriet's death certificate in 1917 notes that she was the widow of James Duff who was recorded as a 'Company Director'. Her father, Gabriel Paul was recorded as *Retired General (United States Army) (Deceased)* and her mother, *Mary Paul (M.S. Whistler) (Deceased)*. Moving on from there,

an internet search for *General Gabriel Paul* revealed 'The Blog of Gettysburg National Military Park' posted on 10th July 2014 by Park Ranger, John Hoptak.

John Hoptak considers the Generals on both sides of the American Civil War who were engaged in the three day carnage that was Gettysburg, and how most are remembered. Amongst these he draws attention to General Gabriel Rene Paul a general who died 8,345 days after falling wounded there:

His name may not be a familiar one, but there are few generals in either blue or gray who had as long and distinguished a military service record as did Gabriel Paul. Born on March 22, 1813, in St Louis, Missouri, Paul came from an illustrious family of French ancestry and with a strong military tradition. His father, Rene Paul, was a military engineer who had served as an officer in Napoleon's army and who was dangerously wounded at Trafalgar. He later immigrated to the United States, settling, ultimately in St Louis where he put his engineering background to good use by becoming a surveyor of the city. It was there, in St Louis, where Rene Paul met and fell in love with Eulalie Chouteau. Eulalie's father, August Chouteau, a prominent fur trader, helped found the city in the early 1760s.

Gabriel Paul was the first child born to Eulalie Chouteau and Rene Paul. In 1829, at the age of sixteen, he obtained a commission to the United States Military Academy and on July 1 of that year – exactly thirty-four years before his injury at Gettysburg – he entered West Point. He graduated smack-dab in the middle of the class of 1834, ranked 18th in a total graduating class of 36. Commissioned a lieutenant in the 7th United States Infantry, Paul served a number of years at a variety of frontier posts before being assigned to Florida where in 1839 and again in 1842 he battled the Semilole. During America's war with Mexico, and as was the case with so many other United States officers destined to wear the general's stars in the Civil War, Paul

served under both Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott and he served with great distinction. He saw battle action at Fort Brown, Monterrey, Vera Cruz, and at Cerro Gordo where he fell wounded. Several months later, he fought at Churubusco, Molino del Rey and in September, 1847, he led a storming party upon the walls of Chapultepec and captured a Mexican army flag. For this, he was given an honorary promotion, or brevet, to the rank of Major and presented with an ornate sword by the grateful people of his home city of St Louis.

The years following the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo witnessed Paul assigned to a number of frontier army posts; at Fort Leavenworth, Jefferson Barracks, and at Corpus Christi, Texas. Throughout the 1850s, he participated in a number of expeditions up the Rio Grande and in Utah. It appears that at some point during this time, Gabriel Paul and his wife Mary divorced. Paul and Mary Whistler had been married since 1835 and together the couple had four children.

After this marriage ended, however, Gabriel Paul, in 1858, remarried, this time to Louise Rogers. Paul would make a home in Newport, Campbell County, Kentucky, directly across the Ohio River from Cincinnati.

When the long-gathering clouds of civil war finally erupted into a violent storm in April 1861, Gabriel Paul was serving as the major of the 8th U.S. Infantry and was stationed at the far-away frontier post of Fort Fillmore, New Mexico. He would remain there for the next fourteen months, organising and training volunteers and, as colonel of the 4th New Mexico Volunteer Infantry, participating in some of the action there, helping to turn back Confederate forces under General Henry Sibley. Mustered out as colonel of the 4th New Mexico in late May 1862, Gabriel Paul next ventured east and that summer was assigned as an inspector general in the defences of Washington.

With Gabriel Paul now assigned to the defences of Washington and still holding the rank of Major in the Regular Army, despite his many years of service, Louise Paul ventured to the White House and called directly upon President Lincoln himself, seeking promotion for her husband. This was nothing unique. Indeed, Lincoln had to deal daily with those seeking government positions or an officers commission in the military. But there was something about Louise Paul's comportment and bearing that left an impression on Lincoln. In late August, Lincoln noted: "Today Mrs Major Paul calls and urges appointment of her husband as a Brigadier [General]. She is a saucy woman and will keep tormenting me until I may have to do it." Less than two weeks later, President Lincoln signed Gabriel Paul's commission as a Brigadier General of volunteers. Unfortunately, over the years, the short, off-putting note from Lincoln describing Louise Paul and her efforts has been used solely to explain why Gabriel Paul was promoted to general, while his long and distinguished service record all-too-often gets forgotten in the telling of this rather dismissive and anecdotal tale.

Gabriel Paul acknowledged receipt of his promotion on September 11, 1862, and soon after entered upon his new assignment as brigade commander in the First Army Corps, leading troops at Fredericksburg and again at Chancellorsville. During this latter engagement, Paul's brigade formed part of the First Corps First Division. But with the restructuring and reorganisation of the Army of the Potomac following this battle, Paul was transferred to assume command of the

First Brigade of General John Robinson's Second Division, First Corps. Paul was thus a relatively unknown newcomer to the 1,600 or so soldiers he would lead upon the fields of Gettysburg: the soldiers of the 16th Maine, 13th Massachusetts, 94th and 104th New York, and 107th Pennsylvania Infantries. Still, by this time, Gabriel Paul was a seasoned, well-experienced and respected officer while his men were hard-fighting, veteran soldiers.

The smoke was just beginning to lift from the rolling fields and ridgelines west of Gettysburg when the soldiers of Robinson's division arrived and took up position near the Lutheran Seminary sometime around 11:30 on the morning of Wednesday, July 1, 1863. Timely-arriving First Corps soldiers from Wadsworth's division had, just a short time earlier, successfully repulsed the attacks of two Confederate brigades from Harry Heth's Division but it had come at a heavy price. First Corps Commander John Reynolds was dead, struck down early in the fight, and already the fields stretching to the front of Robinson's men were a scene of vast carnage. But the fight at Gettysburg was just beginning.

As affairs seemed to be settling down to the west, a new Confederate threat emerged to the far right of the First Corps line, on a prominent rise of ground known as Oak Hill. There, Confederate soldiers from Rode's Division, Second Corps, had arrived, some 8,000 in number, along with 16 cannons, which soon unlimbered and which soon began hurling shot and shell toward the First Corps's exposed right flank. To meet this new and developing threat, Major General Abner Doubleday, who had inherited command of the First Corps upon Reynolds's death, called upon the heavily-bearded John Robinson. Robinson, in turn, called upon his Second Brigade, under General Henry Baxter, whose regiments were soon racing their way to the north, with orders to link up with the right flank of Lysander Cutler's men in position in the trees that topped Oak Ridge, the southern-arm or extension of Oak Hill. Hurrying north, Baxter's men arrived just in time to turn back attacks launched from the north and from the northwest by Alabama troops under Edward O'Neal and North Carolinians under Alfred Iverson. By this point, division commander Robinson had arrived on the scene and though proud and pleased by his men throwing back these two initial attacks, Rodes's Confederates proved relentless and, according to Robinson, the Confederates soon "brought up fresh forces in increased masses. Soldiers in butternut and gray continued to bear down upon Baxter's front and right flank. Because of this – and because Baxter's men were beginning to run low on ammunition – Robinson sent off a staff officer galloping back towards the Seminary, with orders for Gabriel Paul to bring his brigade forward.

Paul's men were busy throwing up makeshift barricades and entrenchments in front of the Lutheran Seminary building when Robinson's orders arrived. Paul quickly directed his regiments to fall in and, turning to their right his soldiers were soon advancing northward, crossing the Chambersburg Pike and the unfinished railroad cut, and passing behind the blue-clad First Corps soldiers who were holding on to their positions in the trees atop the ridgeline. Arriving on Oak Ridge, Paul's men traded places with Baxter's beleaguered soldiers on the front line and soon began trading volleys with Rodes's Confederates. "Our men," wrote Major H.J. Shaeffer of the 107th Pennsylvania, "went into action with the determination to conquer or die."

The musketry was fierce; the smoke heavy. Over the next several hours, hundreds of Paul's men would fall as they clung ever more desperately to their precarious position on the ridgeline. Just

after 4:00 p.m., however, First Corps troops behind them and to their left as well as the Eleventh Corps soldiers below them to their right broke under the weight of heavy Confederate numbers and began to retreat through town. It was round this time that Robinson received orders from Doubleday to retreat. Extracting themselves from Oak Ridge and from the Confederate soldiers who seemed to be closing in on all sides, Baxter's and Paul's men fled. Racing their way south along the streets of Gettysburg, the division ultimately reformed on Cemetery Hill, or at least what was left of the division. Robinson later reported that his Second Division/First Corps went into battle with approximately 2,500 on the morning of July 1. Of this number, 1,667 became casualties, a 67% loss. Colonel Richard Coulter of the 11th Pennsylvania, who filed the report for Gabriel Paul's First Brigade recorded that on July 1, the brigade's loss totalled 776 men killed, wounded, or missing.

Gabriel Paul was among this number. It was soon after his men had arrived on Oak Hill and while he was "gallantly directing and encouraging his command," that the fifty-year-old general fell with a ghastly, horrific wound. A bullet tore into his head, entering about 1½ inches behind his right eye then passing through his head before exiting his left eye socket, carrying his left eye out with it. He was instantly left blinded, while his senses of smell and hearing were also both seriously impaired. Falling to the ground, many believed that Paul had been killed. Yet, somehow, the tough old soldier would survive. Carried to the rear and taken to a field hospital for treatment, Paul likely returned to his home in Newport, Kentucky, to be looked after and cared for by his beloved wife Louise and his two younger daughters. For the next seventeen months, he was on leave of absence from the military on account of disability and on February 16, 1865, was retired from active duty "for disability resulting from wounds received on the line of duty." A week later, Paul was promoted a Brigadier General in the Regular Army "For Gallant and Meritorious Service at the Battle of Gettysburg." Still, though, despite his total blindness and despite frequent headaches, Gabriel Paul would continue to serve his nation and its soldiers in an administrative capacity. He served for a few months as Deputy Governor of the Soldiers Home near Washington before being placed in charge of the Military Asylum at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, a position he held until his retirement on December 20, 1866.



Oak Ridge, where Gabriel Paul was wounded – July 1, 1863. (NPS)

At some point during the post-war years, the Pauls moved to Washington and it was there, finally, on May 5 1886, that Gabriel Paul's long years of suffering at last came to an end."

With all of that in mind I turn now to Harriet Duff, nee Paul, and her husband James Duff whose names are recorded on the memorial in Barnhill cemetery.

There is no doubt that Harriet was the daughter of General Gabriel Paul and Mary Whistler. They married in 1835, and she was born in 1838, long before her parents divorced in the 1850s.

Given that her father served at frontier trading posts after 1848, including Corpus Christi, it is reasonably safe to conclude that the marriage broke up in about 1857 when Harriet would have been aged nineteen. Harriet's death certificate confirms the details of her parents.

917 DUFF, HARRIET (Statutory Deaths 282/01 0198)

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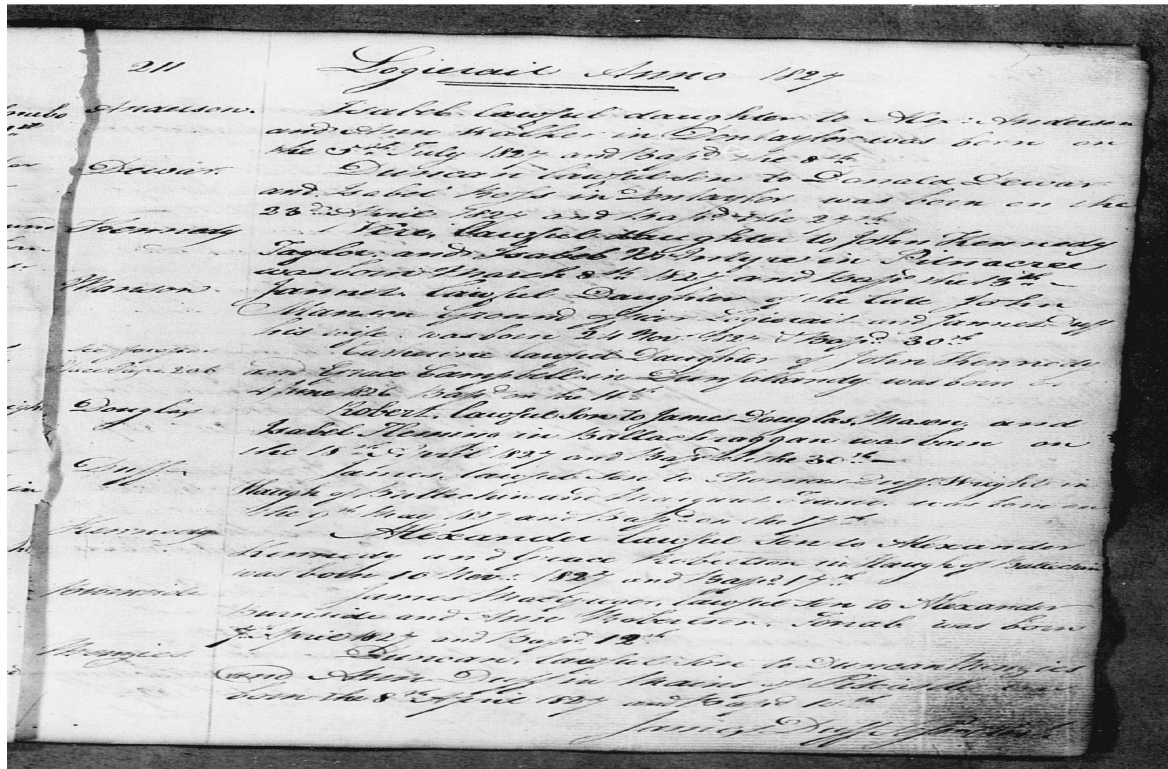
1917. DEATHS in the District of St Peter in the Burgh of Dunrobin

No.	Name and Surname, Rank or Profession, and whether Single, Married, or Widowed.	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname & Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature & Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if one of the Home in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
196	Margaret Gayler	1917. July	M.	18	William Sturrock Dunrobin	Apoplexy	Susan Angus Duff & Sonnet (Present.)	1917. July 15 th Dunrobin D. Young Registrar
	Mrs. Robert Butler (Single)	1917. Dunrobin	F.		Barbara Baird Sturrock M. S. Gayler	As certified by M. B. List M. B.		7.9.17
197	John Wilson	1917. July	M.	60	William Wilson Weaver (Deceased.)	Subacute meningitis 8 months Diphtheria	John Wilson Son 28 Bernard Street (Present.)	1917. July 16 th Dunrobin D. Young Registrar
	John Weaver Married Margaret Young	1917. Mid Wapack Dunrobin	M.		Ann Jane Wilson M. S. Bruce (Deceased.)	As certified by R. Johnston M. B.		7.9.17
198	Harriet Duff (Widow of James Duff Company Director)	1917. July	F.	79	Galvest Paul Johnston (Widow of James Duff) (Deceased.)	Septicæmia Cardiac hypertrophy (Sudden)	J. B. Young 871 Tay St Occupier	1917. July 16 th Dunrobin D. Young Registrar
		1917. July	F.		Mary Paul M. S. Whittler (Deceased.)	As certified by D. Young M. B.		7.9.17

7. 9. 17. Miller Registrar.

17/05/1827 DUFF, JAMES (O.P.R. Births 376/00 0040 0152 LOGIERAIT)

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The above evidences James Duff's birth on the 17th May 1827 at Logierait, Perth, Scotland. James Duff was born on 17th May 1827 and emigrated to probably between 1845 and 1848, when, because of the extreme sufferings through the potato famine in Ireland and the hardships faced in rural communities in Scotland many hundreds of thousands of people crossed the Atlantic seeking a better life. It is recorded that in 1849 he enlisted as a private soldier in the United States army, where he rose to the rank of sergeant before resigning in 1854 at the age of twenty-seven. It seems obvious that he had taken note of the logistical support needed by the army and he set up his own company to provide these services. He became an army sutler—a civilian merchant who sold provisions to an army in the field, camp or in quarters mainly from the back of a waggon. His first customer was the army at Fort Belknap.

By 1856 he had become a successful merchant in San Antonio and he was commissioned by the army to use his waggons to transport a large meteorite weighing about 145 kg, from Wichita in 1836, to Austin where it can still be seen in the Texas Memorial Museum. James Duff's business took him around many of the army frontier posts. Accordingly, he may have known Major Gabriel Paul and his family and was around when Paul's marriage fell apart in 1857. Now almost twenty years old Harriet Paul would have been attracted to the dashing, successful, unmarried, thirty year old James Duff. They married in 1858 the same year her father wed for the second time. Duff's business success continued and his waggons were involved with the relocation of the Texas Comanches to Indian Territory in 1859, the same year that their first daughter, Harriet, was born.

When the first salvo of the American Civil War was fired in April 1861, James Duff had already decided his destiny. He supported the Confederate cause simply because he believed in it. He was placed in command of an irregular Texas Confederate military unit, the Fourteenth Texas Cavalry Battalion that became known as “Duff’s Partisan Rangers,” and was active in seizing San Antonio, and its army garrison, for the state of Texas. Unionism was strong in The Hill Country and Duff was assigned there in May 1862. He left his base in San Antonio and made camp on the Pederales a few miles west of Fredericksburg. He declared martial law on several precincts of Kerr and Gillespie counties, and dismissed the Unionist enrolling officer thereby beginning what Hill Country people later regarded as a reign of terror.

There were many German settlers in The Hill Country with leanings towards the Union. Duff’s job was to persuade them to join the Confederate cause. Amongst the many cruel tales is one involving a group of about eighty Germans led by Fritz Tegener. They decided to head for Mexico except for a small number who preferred to make for New Orleans where they thought they could join the Unionist army.

This exodus came to Captain Duff’s attention (he had been promoted by that time) and he ordered one of his lieutenants, a Colin McCrae, to take 96 men and go in pursuit of the ‘enemy battalion’.

It was on the morning of the 10th of August 1862 that McCrae caught up with the group. What followed has become known as The Battle of the Nueces or the Massacre at Nueces since there were so few German survivors.

The Confederates continued to harass the Unionists in and around the Fredericksburg area until armed opposition was a risk and Captain James Duff was able to return back to his base in San Antonio. His command was later expanded into the Thirty-third Texas Cavalry Regiment with the introduction of several Tejano companies that had been raised by Santos Benavides. Like Duff, he was a successful merchant, a rancher, and a former mayor of Laredo. This newly organised regiment patrolled the Rio Grande and defended it against incursions from Mexico. Duff and five companies were stationed at Corpus Christi. In April 1864 the regiment was moved to Bonham in North Texas because of supply shortages. In the summer of that year the regiment came under Sam Bell Maxey’s command by which time James Duff had been elevated to Colonel. The Webb County, Texas, web site notes that in April 1864 the regiment consisted of 23 officers and 307 men, with Colonel James Duff being one of the four field officers. In June 1865 the Regiment was included in the surrender of the Confederates which effectively ended the war.

The 1871 census shows James Duff back in Scotland as a farmer of 424 acres, of which 384 are arable, at Kingoldrum Farm, Kingoldrum, Forfarshire where he lived along with his wife Harriet and his two daughters, twelve years old Julia Ann, and six years old Margaret. He must have been a man of means since he employed a governess, a dairy maid/domestic help, a cook and housemaid, a farm grieve and four male farm workers.

Sometime in the mid-1870s a group of investors got together and formed the Colorado Mortgage and Investment Company (CMIC) and opened its head office in London. James Duff was Vice-President along with a James Barclay. A few months later they opened the American Branch of

their Company in Denver, Colorado. James must have given up farming in Kingoldrum and taken his wife and two daughters back to the USA, to Denver, since no mention is made of them in the UK 1881 census. The company made an immediate impact, agreeing to support the construction of the Winsor Hotel, which still stands today after having been refurbished in recent times. Although the CMIC lent its support to many other building projects, it had identified a huge need to provide proper irrigation to the dry lands around to make them viable and, by the beginning of 1879 was the most prolific irrigation canal builder in the State.

In the middle of 1879 Jay Gould, owner of the Union Pacific Railroad Company merged with the Kansas Pacific Railroad company (KP), believing that irrigation of the KP land in Colorado would attract settlers. He set out to seek financial support for a private irrigation venture, that he named the High Line Canal, and found Barclay and Duff particularly interested in the project. In 1879 CMIC had organised the company Larimer and Weld Irrigation Company to build the Eaton Ditch. A year later the company were involved in the High Line project east of Denver, and in January 1881 it established the Loveland and Greeley Irrigation and Land Company to build a canal from the Big Thompson River. The CMIC soon became known as 'The English Company'. The High Line Canal was completed in 1883 and was nearly 84 miles long. Overall, that canal was not a successful venture. However, in addition to its irrigation holdings, CM&I had invested heavily in downtown Denver real estate, railroad stock, cattle ranching, among other Western ventures. In October 1879 James Barclay returned to CM&I's base in London, where he and other investors established the Platte Valley Land Company, which was to furnish CM&I with investment funds. CM&I incorporated a small company, Northern Colorado Irrigation (NCI), for the single purpose of constructing the canal. While Barclay was in London, Duff agreed to buy 120,000 acres of UP-KP land adjacent to the South Platte River from its mouth 60 miles downstream.

The wedding of James Duff's daughter Julie Ann to John Brown Taylor, a linen manufacturer and merchant in Dundee, took place in Middlesex on the 30th of January 1884. There is no record of James and Harriet Duff in the United Kingdom in the census of 1891. However, they did return from Denver not to Scotland but to England, probably in the mid 1890s after James had passed the age of 65. He died in Richmond, Surrey, in April 1900.

Harriet came back to Scotland to live with her daughter Julie and her husband John Taylor at Affleck Castle in Monikie and is recorded as being there in the 1901 census. By 1911 she was staying at Orange Grove, Bath, along with her daughter Julie; both are shown as visitors and it is likely that Harriet's youngest daughter Margaret lived there. Harriet returned to Dundee and died in 1917 at Hazel Hall East, on Perth Road Dundee, where she lived her last days with her son-in-law John Brown Taylor. Julie must have separated from John sometime after 1901 and her death is recorded in Staincross in Yorkshire in 1942.

In a corner of a historical cemetery in Barnhill, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, Scotland., a memorial stands to celebrate the lives of James Duff, Harriet Duff, John Brown Taylor and Julie Ann Taylor. In simple terms it spans a period of time from when Harriet's father was born in 1813 to the date Harriet's oldest daughter died in 1944, 131 years. However, this little account is written in 2016, so, practically, it covers 203 years of history but it reveals much more than that.

It covers a period of American history that, ultimately, resulted in the United States as we know it today. The Mexican war established its southern borders, the Indian wars and relocations, and the war to end all American wars, the American Civil War. It then reveals how a Scot, though not alone, was instrumental in the development of the State of Colorado after it gained its independence in 1876, and his involvement with the City of Denver in particular.

There is however, another more fundamental message that has been transmitted from those times to our time. James Duff's background and beliefs persuaded him to support the Confederate cause. Gabriel Paul's life was inextricably linked to the Union or Federal cause and we must suppose that his eldest daughter's sympathies lay according to her father's interests. We may never know whether Harriet ever saw her father again after 1858, perhaps the gulf between the Pauls and the Duffs later political beliefs was too great. In so far as Robert Duff and Harriet Paul were concerned in 1858, three years before such beliefs had to be tested, love conquered all and their marriage stood the test of time and that is the fundamental message that has been handed down.

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Broughty Ferry

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