

conditions of life between that time and the present, and it also explains the fact that the clothing of a dead man was valued and included in the inventory of his effects, and sold as part of the estate. No one in those days seems to have thought that there was anything singular in purchasing and wearing the clothes of a deceased neighbor. The clothing of Deacon Jonathan Burpee, for instance, was valued at £7 15s. 3d, and it included his best brown suit worth £4 5s. 6d, and a beaver hat valued at 10s. These clothes were all sold and worn by others, most of the purchasers being members of the family.

It has already been stated that the prices of all articles bought out of a store were high as compared with what we pay at the present day, while the prices of produce were usually low. Molasses in 1772 was 2s. 6d. a gallon, and 5s. in 1777, the increased price being no doubt due to the war, which interfered with trade. Salt was 5s. a bushel in 1771 and 10s. in 1778. Sugar ranged from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. per pound, the latter being the prevailing price. Indigo was from 12s. to 20s. per pound; tea varied in price from 6s. to 7s. 6d. per pound; coffee was 2s., raisins, 2s.; gunpowder from 2s. 6d. to 5s.; tobacco 3s. to 3s. 6d.; rum from 4s. to 5s. a gallon. In 1771 it was 10s. The prices of farm produce varied considerably. In September, 1784, butter was 6d. per pound in Maugerville; in July, 1778, the price was 10d.; in November, 1788, it was 1s., and in September, 1784, 1s. 3d. Lamb was 2½d. per pound; beef ranged from 1½d. in 1777 to 3d. in 1780, and 6d. in 1783. Potatoes varied in price from 1s. 3d. a bushel in 1779 to 2s. 6. in 1781. Geese cost from 3s. to 3s. 6d. each; fowls, 1s.; pork from 5d. to 6d. per pound. The lower prices mentioned above may be regarded as the ruling price, for in 1783 and 1784 the great influx of Loyalists and the increased demand for provisions raised prices far above their normal figure.

Life in Maugerville one hundred and thirty years ago offered but little in the way of amusements. Musical instruments were unknown in the farm houses of that day. Now every farm house has its cabinet organ or piano. There were few social meetings, and almost the only events that brought the people together were the services held by itinerant preachers. Even these were not frequent, and there was no settled minister until 1774, and he had but a brief career, for he turned rebel and fled to Maine in 1777. School privileges were few, and the teaching was usually done in the winter by one of the settlers