

Example is Better Than Precept

It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparil does, that tells the story. Thousands of testimonials are examples of what Hood's has done for others, and what it will do for you.

Dyspepsia - I was weak and had fainting spells. Dyspepsia and indigestion in severe form troubled me. Five bottles of Hood's Sarsaparil made me well and strong. Mrs. WILLIAM VANDERKAM, Wabigo, Ont.

A Good Medicine - We have taken Hood's Sarsaparil our family for years. It is a good medicine and we know Hood's Sarsaparil is a good medicine. R. S. FERRIS, publisher, Alwood, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparil NEVER DISAPPOINTS

Only Pills cure liver, the non-purifying and healthy pills cure liver like Hood's Sarsaparil

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A GIRL'S AGE

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THE EDITOR'S WIFE

THIS LADY SUFFERED TERRIBLY FROM RHEUMATISM. Her joints began to swell and twist out of all shape—Death Watch Had Been a Knocking at the Door.

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A PAGE FROM THE PAST

Prof. Shortt has received, through the agency of Thomas Casey, Esq., an old store day book kept by Benjamin Seymour, father of the late senator Seymour. The former owner of the book, which has laid unused since the late owner was made sheriff over a hundred years ago, kept the first office in Kingston.

There was another one doing business at the time on the Niagara frontier, but on the American side. The store of which this book gives a record was located at Sandhurst, in South Frederickburgh. Nearly all the old settlers from Fairfield west to Picton had accounts. A glance at this interesting old relic of Canadian pioneer business would lead one to believe that this writing was but the work of yesterday—it is so plain and legible. Yet, when the eye seeks for the date, which on every page is found at the top, there appears the words: "Fred's book 1793." Over one hundred years ago, then, this writing was being traced upon the page, and the hand that traced it has long since returned to the dust from which it came.

Something of the great change that has been effected in Canada since that time, and the work done by its pages. Importation, competition, the cheapening of production, the development of the country and other like causes have reduced, to a marked extent, the price paid for articles in those days—prices which were only a few times as high as those of today would regard as exorbitant.

To quote a few of these prices: common nails, 6d. or 10c. per lb.; rum 15s to 18s, or from \$2.60 to \$3.00 per gallon; wheat, 1s 6d. or 18c. per bushel; fine cloth, 10s. or \$3.20 a yard; cheap cotton, 30c. a yard; loaf sugar, 2s. 6d. or 30c. a lb.; wheat, 5s. or \$1.00 a bushel; flour, 17s. 6d. or \$3.50 a barrel; and one of the most interesting articles mentioned and the prices given, yet they give a good proof of what the scale of prices at that time was. It will be noticed that whiskey could be purchased for just half way over a dollar per bushel. It was manufactured in the colony; the latter had to be imported from the West Indies and Britain, although a great deal was smuggled in from across the border.

At that remote period, however, received per bushel for their wheat, whereas they now receive only from 50c to 70c per bushel. The flour sold at \$3.50, so that one can easily see that the profit must have been enormous; what the profit is so much the more so, as the wheat was manufactured in a short space of time in order to make it pay. People now would think a merchant had lost his money if he asked 50c a pound for his loaf sugar. But the merchant of that time was obliged to import his article, and transportation at that time was slow and expensive. The sugar originally came from the West Indies, but it was first shipped to Britain and then to Canada. The English system of reckoning cost was in use then, but it was the Halifax currency, not the British.

There is a valuable lesson to be learned from all this. The laborer of that day received a daily wage of no more than forty or seventy-five cents, while skilled men never earned more than \$1.20. Compare that with the scale of wages in our day, and it will be seen that the laborer of that time had a much easier life, for his wages have been greatly increased. Then compare the cost of living to day with the cost of living at that time. A dollar now will buy much more than it would then. In 1793 it would have purchased only three and a third yards of cheap cotton; in 1899 it can purchase twenty yards.

The comparison might be carried much further, but it has already been carried far enough to show that the cost of living had decreased. As the increase and decrease have both been considerable it is evident that the lot of the workman in Canada has greatly improved, at least for the past one hundred years. This, then, is the lesson which the old account book teaches.

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