

## BARTER

Barter in 1784, two years before the first of the Bird sheriff sales, would hardly involve a knowledge of shshy Bird finances. It was good business both by the buyer as well as by the seller. Gastings paid for 28 pair of shoes on June 6, 1784. Involved was <sup>costing 7/3 a pair</sup> 10.3.0, over \$26, of pottware, hardware and flatirons. Shoes from another source in the same month cost 4.4.0 for 12 pair, <sup>89 pence, 7 sh a pair</sup> again ~~less~~ than a dollar 90 pence a pair. In late August shoes sold for 9/6 a pair; ~~7/6 is 90 pence.~~ <sup>cost</sup> Hence profit was about <sup>2/8</sup> ~~2/6~~ pence a pair.

Seventy-nine gallons of Whiskey, a regular store item, paid for two stoves and a skillet on Nov. 1784 (p 122), worth 12 Pounds. This whiskey then cost Bird about 40 <sup>1/2</sup> pence a gallon ~~or~~ <sup>10 sh and a tenth</sup> 10 sh and a tenth pence a pint; Resale gave Bird a profit of 5 to 6 <sup>quart</sup> pence a ~~qua~~ quart. Purchased rum cost 2/8 a gallon for 30 gallon, plus 19 sh duty. Sales at 1/6 a quart earned a profit of 2/8 a gallon on costs of 3/4 a gallon.

A sixty-seven gallon kettle swapped for 4 pairs of shoes on Oct. 18, 1784; both were worth 1.7.11, 325 pence of about 84 pence a pair, seven shillings. This swap earned a shilling ~~an~~ pair extra for Bird, 12 pence extra a pair.