

In the 19th century, everyone kept track of what they bought and how it was paid for in account books or day books. Each page had the name of someone they were doing business with. Pages in Jonathan Hale’s account books show that the Hales bought goods from Mr. Jonathan Starr. Mr. Starr didn’t have a store or a shop, but his travels allowed him to collect the things people in the Cuyahoga Valley wanted or needed. When he came to Ohio, he sold these goods for money or bartered for things that he could sell to others. Even though his business wasn’t in one place, it was a kind of market for the people of the region.

Below, we see two lists from the Hale account book pages for business with Mr. Starr: the purchase side shows goods the Hales bought, and the value in money. The credit or payment side shows how it was paid for.

1. Look at the list of purchases below. Mrs. Hale made clothing for people in the valley.

Circle the things that Mrs. Hale could have used to make clothing.

2. Now look at the payments. Which were things they made or grew themselves?

Draw a line under the **goods** that were made or grown.

3. Did the Hales use money to pay for things they needed? _____

4. Consider the list of things that Mr. Starr received in payment, like eggs, butter or yarn.

Do you think he needed those things for himself? _____

What might he do with them next? _____

Jon. Hale Esq. in account with Jon. Starr

purchases	payments
2 3/4 yds. blue fulled (woolen) cloth	Bushels of oats
Paper of pins	Cotton yarn
1 Handsaw	Eggs
Cotton yarn	Butter
2 lbs. of indigo (a blue dye)	By making a coat
Cotton shirting fabric	Cash
Cotton twist (thread)	
2 lbs. of nails	

total \$35.00

total \$35.00

Dr Jonathan Hale's Exp in

1816			
Jan 24	To 2 3/4 yds Blue Filled Cloth ad 2 37 1/2		6.53
March 9	To pd your order to Mary Jordan		1.00
Apr 24	To pd " " " " " " " " " " " "		4.22
" 27	To 1/2 lb Tea 1.50 To 7 yds Calico ad 50 per yd 35.00		5.00
	To 1 Hand saw 3.75 To 1 Hand saw full 3.14		4.86 1/2
May 9	To 2 lb 4 7/8 nails 62 1/2 To 1 lb 10 3/4 nails 25		1.87 1/2
July 6	To 1/2 lb Tea 15.00 To 1 Chap Book 18 1/2		1.68 1/2
Sept 30	To 1 paper of Pins 0.25		.25
Oct 14	To 1 lb Cotton yarn 100 To 1 lb Cotton twist 8		1.08
" 33	To 1 1/2 yds Cotton shirting 25 3/4 To 1 lb Cotton 5.87 1/2		2.62 1/2
Dec 13	To 1/2 lb Tea 7 1/2 To 1 Spool 25		.96
1817	To Cash Lent 100 To 2 1/2 % Discount with Amos 5 1/2		1.87 1/2
Jan 25	To 1 knife 3 1/4 To 2 Books Life Franklin's Speeches ad 18 1/2		2.18 1/2
Feb 5	To 1/2 lb Paper 18 1/2 To 1 Cash pd Boston frequent 40		5.87 1/2
Apr 28	To 2 lb Tea 50 To 1 set Whittington's 6 1/2		5.61 1/2
	To 1/2 lb Damaged Tea omitted Charging		.50
	Total interest on the above due		1.00
			<u>\$35.00</u>

The pictures on the left are from Jonathan Hale's account book. He kept track of everything he bought and sold. Every person Mr. Hale did business with had their own page.

The top picture shows what the Hales bought from Jonathan Starr in 1816 and 1817. The Hales bought \$35.00 worth of goods from Mr. Starr.

with Jonathan Starr

1816			
July 6	By 11 3/4 Bu Bats ad 40		4.70
	" Discount with of King		2.00
Oct 31	" 1 lb Cotton yarn 100 By 2 1/2 % Disc Egg 3 1/4 2 % Butter 4 1/2		1.77 1/2
	" 6 lb 3 lb Bag 2 1/2 To 12 1/4 1 1/4 Butter 1.20		1.41
	" Tea returned 50		.50
1817			
Apr 26	" Cash not current money from day since		.25
July 25	" " 12 1/4 By 1 Biddle this day sold Sept 15 100		1.12 1/2
Aug 6	" " of Mr Jordan 100, 1 1/2 % Disc Egg 4 5 3/4		1.43 3/4
" 21	" " 2 1/4 By Discount with Wm Carter 650		6.76 1/2
	By making boat		2.00
	By Discount with 4 King		4.50
	By note to Ballance due		7.05
			<u>\$35.00</u>
	Jonathan Starr		

The bottom picture shows how the Hales paid for what they bought. The Hales paid for their purchases with cash, goods or services worth \$35.00.

When the amount of purchases equaled the amount of payments, the account was settled. A fresh page in the account book would be started for new purchases and payments.

The chart on the next page shows the lists of some of the items bought and bartered.