Bartering for Goods

Period Quotes

They take most commonly a place about ther howses to sett ther corne,…and in this place they dig many holes which before the English brought them scauels and spades they vsed to make with a crooked peece of woode beinge scrapped on both sides in fation of a gardeners paring Iron.

*Henry Spelman*

Their manner of trading is for copper, beads, and such like, for which they give such commodities as they have, as skins, foule, fish, flesh, and their Country Corne. But their victuals are their chiepest riches.

*John Smith*

But it so hap’ned that Powhatan, having his desire, valued his corn at such a rate that I think it better cheap in Spain, for we had not four bushels for that we expected to have twenty hogsheads.

*John Smith*

. . . being invited by Powhatan to come unto him, and if he would send him but men to build him a house, give him a grindstone, fifty swords, some pieces, a cock and a hen, with much copper and beads, he would load his ship with corn…

*John Smith*

Within this river, Captain Samuell Argoll in a small river, which the Indians call Oquiho, anno 1610, trading in a bark called the *Discovery* for corn with the great king of Patawomeck, from him obtained well near 400 bushels of wheat, peas, and beans, beside many kinds of furs, for 9li of copper, 4 bunches of beads, 8 dozen of hatchets, five dozen of knives, 3i bunches of bells, one dozen of scissors – all not much more worth than 40 shillings English;

*William Strachey*