

Re: reliability problem with Finance::QuoteHist::Yahoo

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Perl/comp.lang.perl.misc/2008-07/msg00567.html>

- *From:* smallpond <smallpond@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 14 Jul 2008 17:46:15 -0400
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Ted wrote:

I have been able to get this package to work sometimes. However, invariably it fails on me part way through my script, after downloading data for from one to four ticker symbols. The error is:

Can't use an undefined value as an ARRAY reference at C:/Perl/site/lib/Finance/QuoteHist/Generic.pm line 863.

I have no information about how an undefined value is being passed deep into the code of a package I didn't write. I took a quick look into Generic.pm and yahoo.pm, but found no enlightenment so far (there's a lot of code there).

Sometimes it arises when quotes() is executed, and at other times, it occurs when dividends() is executed.

The script I am using is appended below. There isn't anything special about it. Much of it I copied from example code in the documentation provided for the two finance packages I'm trying. About all I did was merge two example scripts, and attempt to get the historical quote data for one symbol at a time. So far, I have historical quote data for four stocks. There are over 7000 that I need to retrieve: obviously not something that is manageable manually downloading each individually.

Neither Finance::QuoteHist::Generic nor Finance::QuoteHist::Yahoo (which is derived from the former) say anything about error handling, or provide a way to test whether or not data was successfully downloaded.

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks

Ted

Re: reliability problem with Finance::QuoteHist::Yahoo

Without even looking at your code my guess is that Yahoo! is not particularly pleased about providing an ad-sponsored service to web-scrapers. Part of the reason that free services change their page format is to block people from doing this. Yahoo! changes their page format fairly frequently and I'm willing to bet that their web programmers have access to CPAN. If you need 7000 quotes then its pretty clearly not for your personal portfolio. Maybe time for your company to invest in a quote service.

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** Posted from <http://www.teranews.com> **

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