

RE: Not an ARRAY reference. Problems reading a simple XML file

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  - *Date:* Mon, 2 Apr 2007 15:24:37 +0100
- 

If you look at \$data for the problem file its not an array at that point.  
For a single element XML::Simple doesn't display your data in a list i.e.

With 1 element of record.

```
$VAR1 = {  
'RECORD' => {  
'COLLNAME' => 'FBIS2004',  
'DOCI' => 'CP1'  
}  
};
```

With 2 elements of record.

```
$VAR1 = {  
'RECORD' => [  
{  
'COLLNAME' => 'FBIS2004',  
'DOCI' => 'CP1'  
},  
'BOOB'  
]  
};
```

So you cant do @{\$data->{RECORD}} as it doesn't exist when there is only 1 element.

You can either test that its an arrayref or hashref or you could use something like XML::Parser, Lib:XML

Etc...

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave Adams [<mailto:davidlamontadams@xxxxxxxxxx>]

Sent: 02 April 2007 15:15

To: beginners perl

Subject: Not an ARRAY reference. Problems reading a simple XML file

RE: Not an ARRAY reference. Problems reading a simple XML file

RE: Not an ARRAY reference. Problems reading a simple XML file

My script is having problems reading an XML file with only one record in it. When I add two or more records, there are no problems. The error is "Not an ARRAY reference.."

Here is the PROBLEM xml file (test.xml):

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1" ?> <DATA> <RECORD>
<COLLNAME>FBIS2004</COLLNAME> <DOCI>CP1</DOCI> </RECORD> </DATA>
```

Here is the WORKING xml file:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1" ?> <DATA> <RECORD>
<COLLNAME>FBIS2004</COLLNAME> <DOCI>CP1</DOCI> </RECORD> <RECORD>
<COLLNAME>FBIS2005</COLLNAME> <DOCI>CP2</DOCI> </RECORD> </DATA>
```

Here is my script:

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
use XML::Simple;
use Data::Dumper;

$xml = new XML::Simple (KeyAttr=>[]);
$data = $xml->XMLin("test.xml");
#print Dumper($data);
print "There are " . scalar(@{$data->{RECORD}}) . " records.\n"; foreach my
$var (@{$data->{RECORD}}) { print $var->{DOCI} . "\n"; print
$var->{COLLNAME} . "\n"; }
```

Does anyone have an explanation for this?

Thanks in advance,  
DA

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