

# How I got Ruby on Rails working on my office personal computer

*By Thomas Bodine*

My goal in this document is to describe how I got Ruby on Rails working on my work PC and worked my way through the first chapter of Ruby on Rails Up and Running by *Bruce Tate and Curt Hibbs* ISBN-13: 978-0-596-10132-9. The problem with using this book is it is about eight years old, written for Ruby on Rails 1.0. So I had to translate commands to new syntax for Rails 4.0.4.

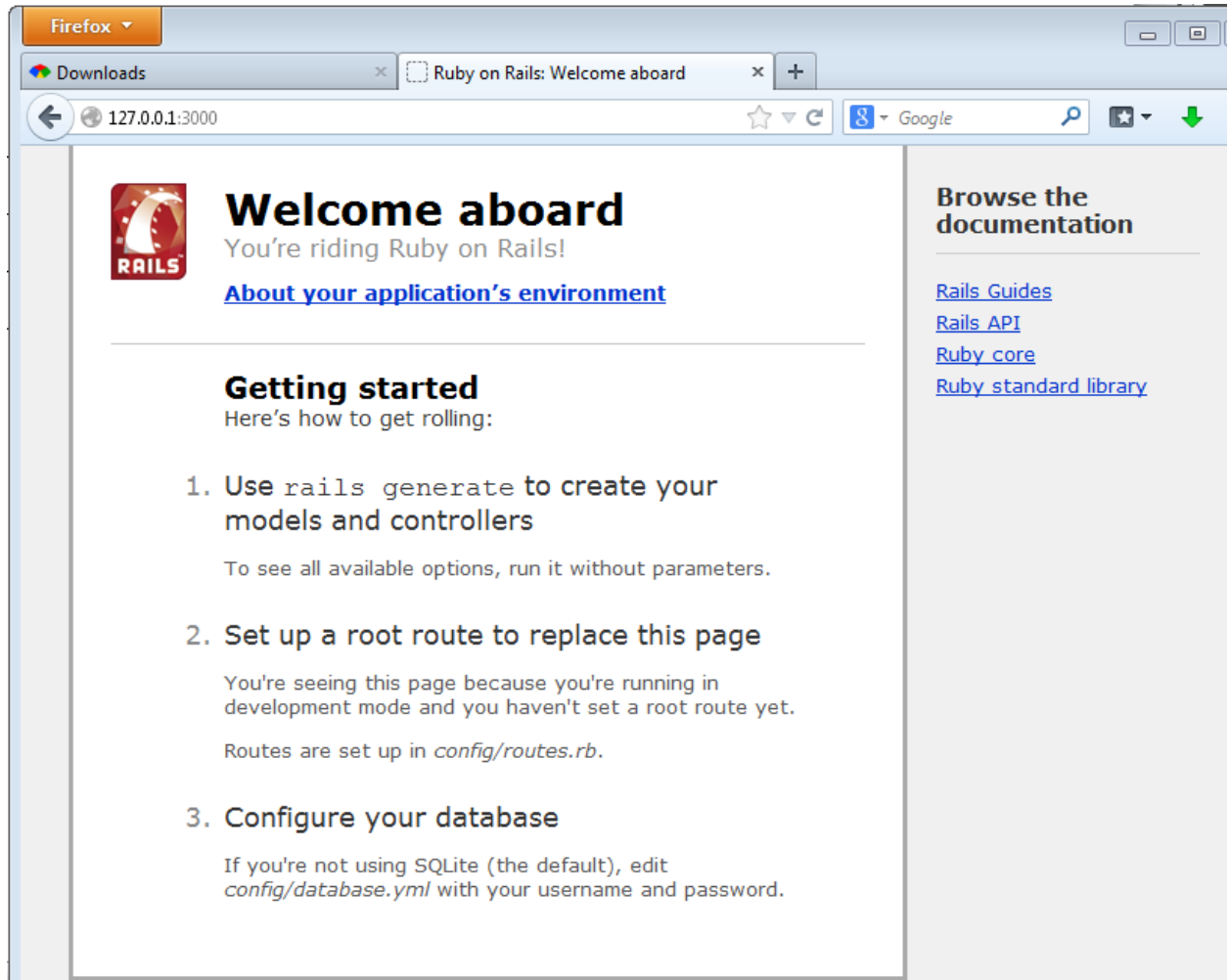
1. Downloaded Ruby from <http://rubyonrails.org/download>
2. Which pointed me to the most recent ruby  
<http://dl.bintray.com/oneclick/rubyinstaller/rubyinstaller-2.0.0-p451.exe?direct>
3. I installed it by clicking on it.
4. It creates a new directory in start menu that contains five short cuts in `%APPDATA%\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\RailsInstaller`

Command Prompt with Ruby and Rails.Ink	RubyGems Documentation Server.Ink
Console.exe.Ink	Uninstall RailsInstaller.Ink
Interactive Ruby.Ink	

5. I changed the console link that is only there since I have console2 loaded on my computer as well, this may just be a cmd.exe link otherwise. I changed it to say: `"C:\Program Files\Console2\Console.exe" -d C:\Rails2\Ruby1.9.3\bin` so it would start up in the right directory.
6. Started the console from the above link
7. Ran the following : `gem install rails --include-dependencies`
8. Created a new directory `C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1`
9. Changed to this new directory: `cd C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1`
10. Created a new project: `rails new chapter-1`
11. Created a database schema: `rake db:migrate`
12. Built the project: `rake`

13. Started the server at 127.0.0.1: rails server -b 127.0.0.1

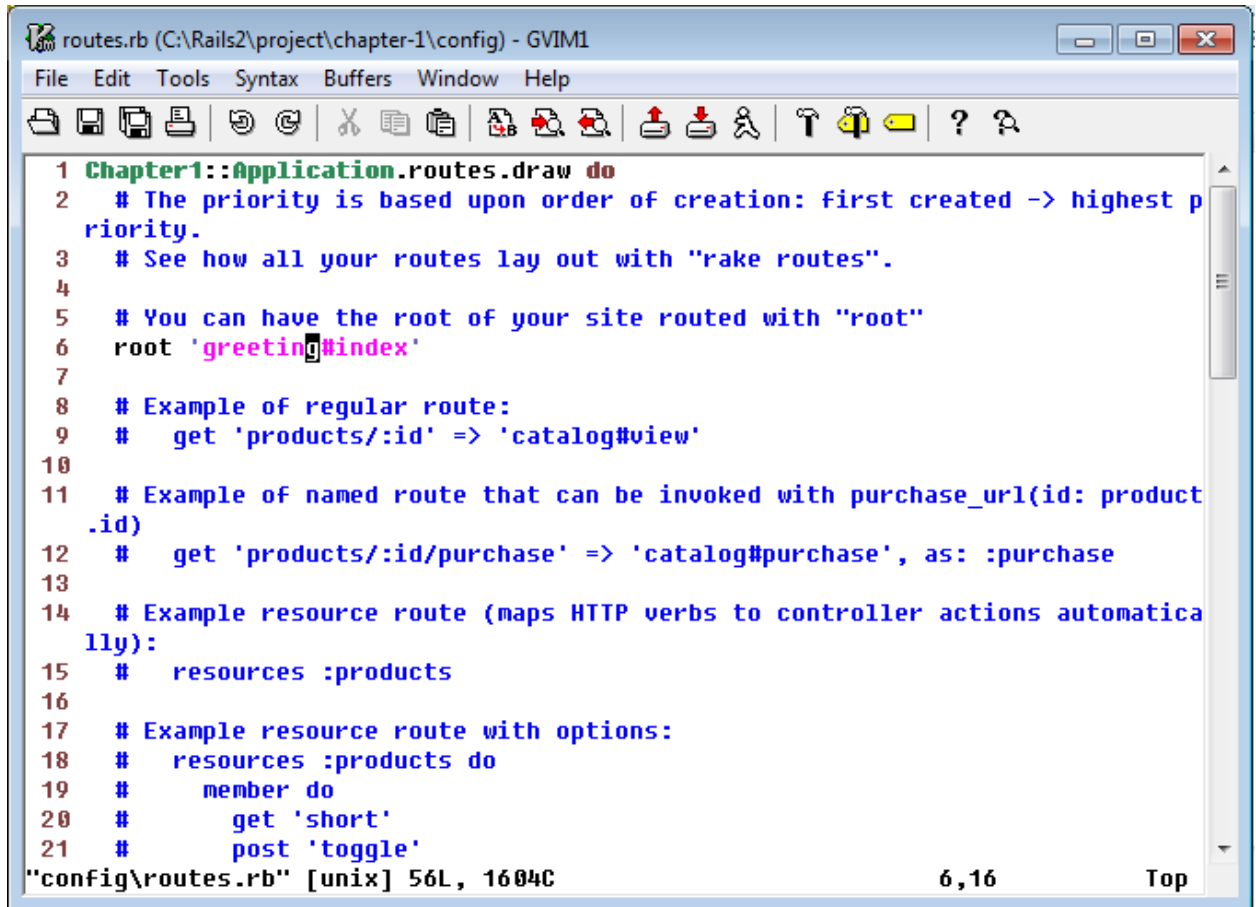
14. The Result



15. Created a greeting controller: rails generate controller Greeting



17. Edited the file `C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1\config\routes.rb`:

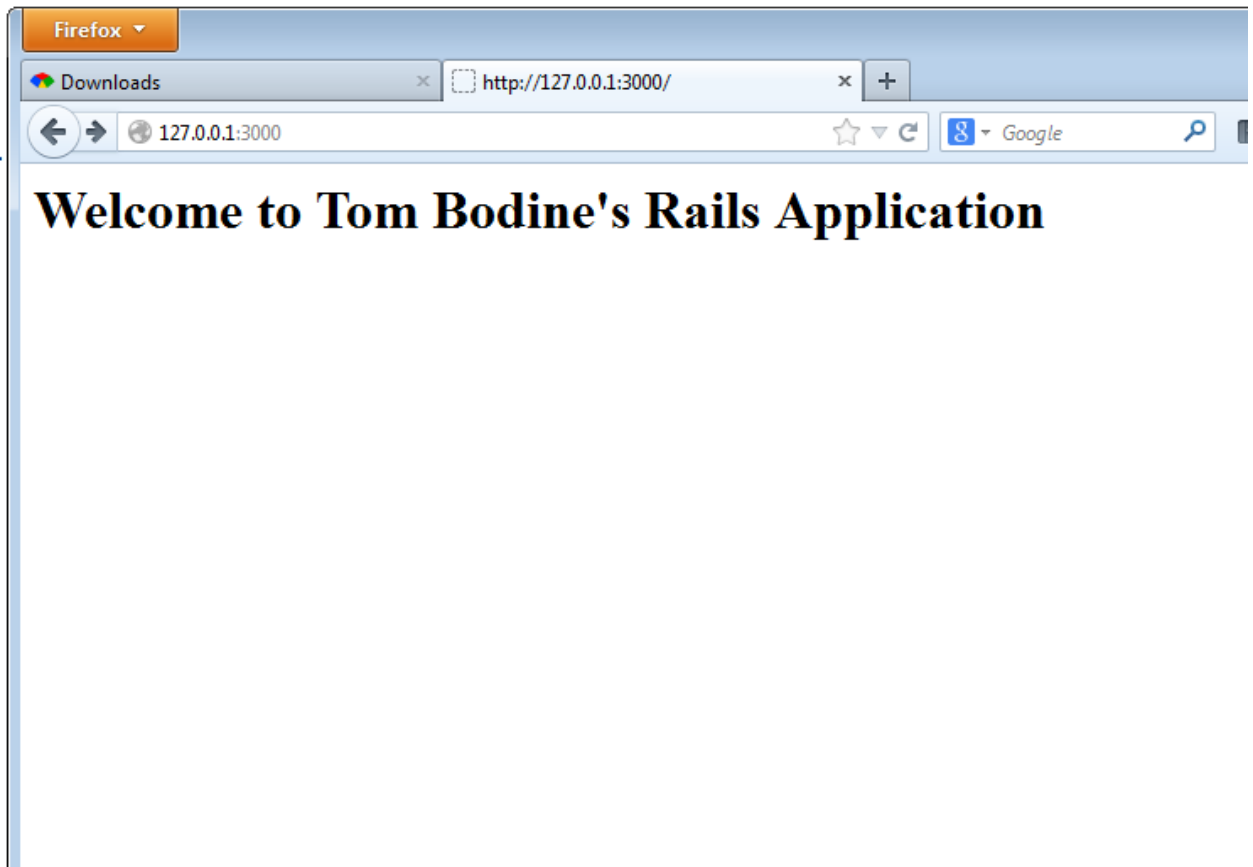


```
1 Chapter1::Application.routes.draw do
2 # The priority is based upon order of creation: first created -> highest p
3 # See how all your routes lay out with "rake routes".
4
5 # You can have the root of your site routed with "root"
6 root 'greeting#index'
7
8 # Example of regular route:
9 # get 'products/:id' => 'catalog#view'
10
11 # Example of named route that can be invoked with purchase_url(id: product
12 # get 'products/:id/purchase' => 'catalog#purchase', as: :purchase
13
14 # Example resource route (maps HTTP verbs to controller actions automatica
15 # resources :products
16
17 # Example resource route with options:
18 # resources :products do
19 # member do
20 # get 'short'
21 # post 'toggle'
```

"config\routes.rb" [unix] 56L, 1604C 6,16 Top

18. Restarted the webserver

19. Reloaded the page with this result:



20. Next I built a View by typing

```
C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1>rails generate controller Greeting  
index
```

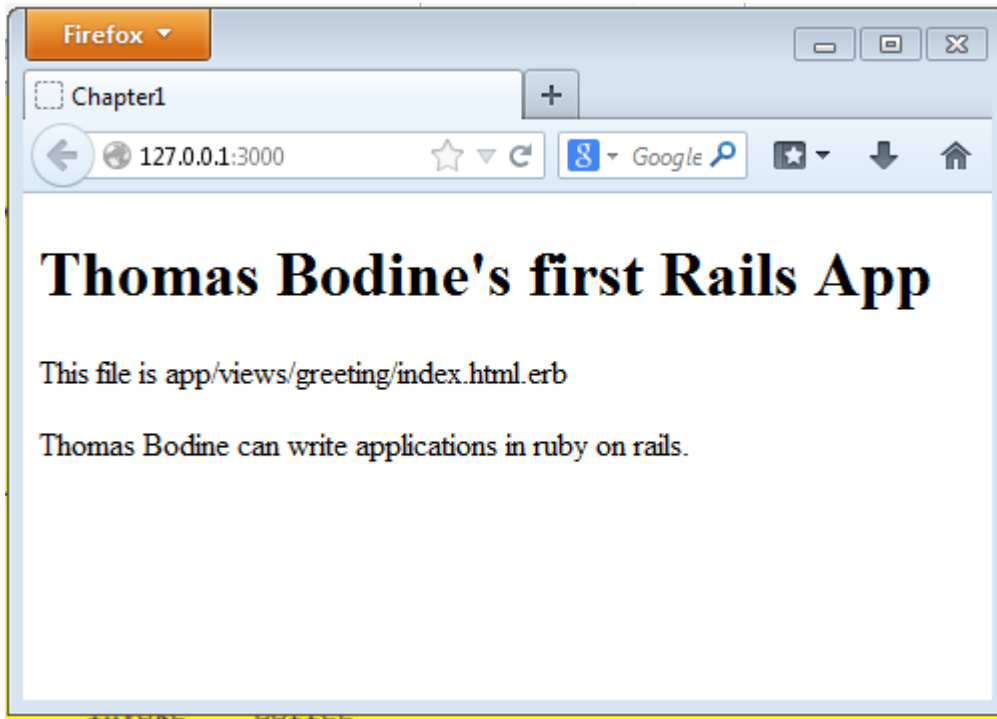
```
conflict app/controllers/greeting_controller.rb
<eting_controller.rb? (enter "h" for help) [Ynaqdh] h
  Y - yes, overwrite
  n - no, do not overwrite
  a - all, overwrite this and all others
  q - quit, abort
  d - diff, show the differences between the old and the new
  h - help, show this help
<eting_controller.rb? (enter "h" for help) [Ynaqdh] y
  force app/controllers/greeting_controller.rb
  route get "greeting/index"
  invoke erb
  exist app/views/greeting
  create app/views/greeting/index.html.erb
  invoke test_unit
  conflict test/controllers/greeting_controller_test.rb
<_controller_test.rb? (enter "h" for help) [Ynaqdh] y
  force test/controllers/greeting_controller_test.rb
  invoke helper
  identical app/helpers/greeting_helper.rb
  invoke test_unit
  identical test/helpers/greeting_helper_test.rb
  invoke assets
  invoke coffee
  identical app/assets/javascripts/greeting.js.coffee
  invoke scss
  identical app/assets/stylesheets/greeting.css.scss

C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1>gvim app/views/greeting/index.html.erb
C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1>
```

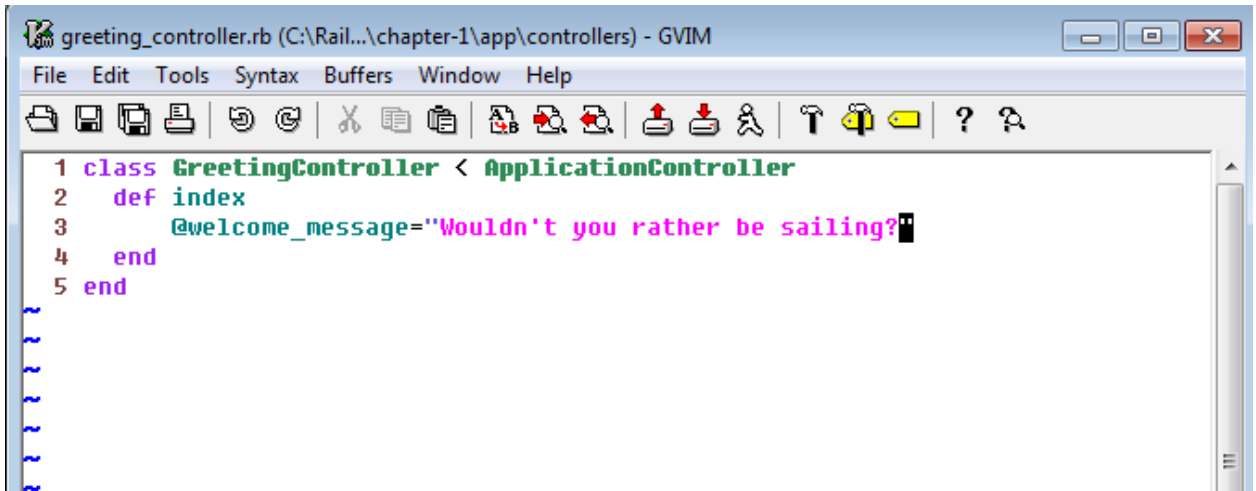
Then I edited the file *app/views/greeting/index.html.erb*

21. I started a separate console window, changed to the *C:\Rails2\project\chapter-1* directory and started the webserver with the command *"rails server -b 127.0.0.1"*

22. Then I could see this in my web browser:



23. Then I changed the greeting controller:

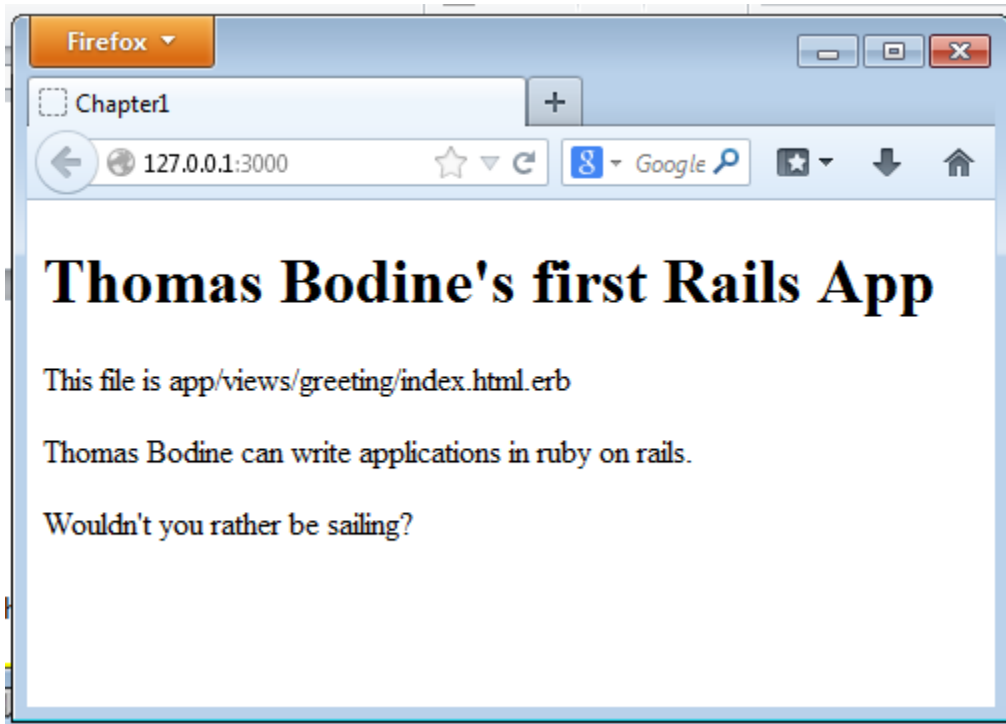


24. I changed `app/views/greeting/index.html.erb`:

A screenshot of a GVIM editor window. The title bar reads "index.html.erb (C:\Rails2\proje...apter-1\app\views\greeting) - GVIM". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Tools", "Syntax", "Buffers", "Window", and "Help". The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and editing. The main text area shows four lines of code:

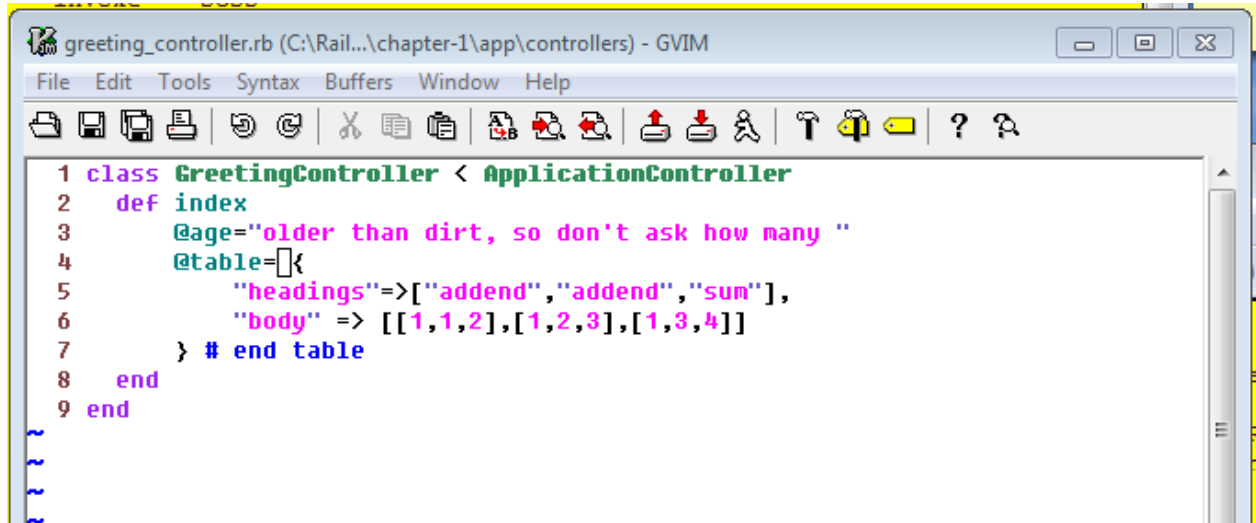
```
1 <h1>Thomas Bodine's First Rails App</h1>
2 <p>This file is app/views/greeting/index.html.erb</p>
3 <p>Thomas Bodine can write applications in ruby on rails.</p>
4 <p><%= @welcome_message %> </p>
```

25. Now when I refresh the page, I see





26. Next I changed the `greeting_controller.rb` again.

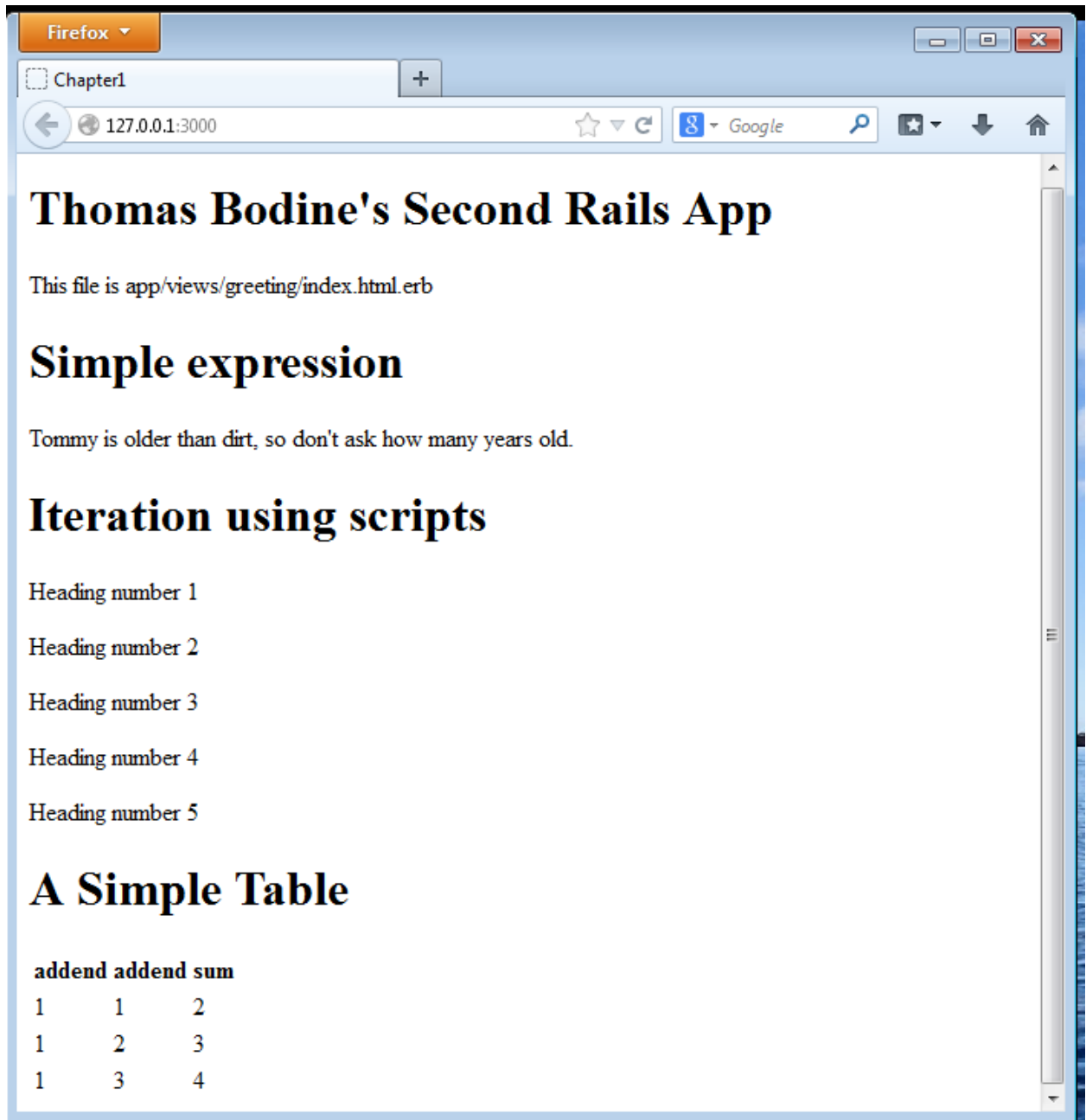


```
greeting_controller.rb (C:\Rail...\chapter-1\app\controllers) - GVIM
File Edit Tools Syntax Buffers Window Help
[Icons]
1 class GreetingController < ApplicationController
2   def index
3     @age="older than dirt, so don't ask how many "
4     @table={
5       "headings"=>["addend","addend","sum"],
6       "body" => [[1,1,2],[1,2,3],[1,3,4]]
7     } # end table
8   end
9 end
```

27. Then I changed `index.html.erb`:

```
index.html.erb (C:\Rails2\proj...apter-1\app\views\greeting) - GVIM
File Edit Tools Syntax Buffers Window Help
[Icons]
1 <h1>Thomas Bodine's Second Rails App</h1>
2 <p>This file is app/views/greeting/index.html.erb</p>
3 <h1>Simple expression</h1>
4 <p>Tommy is <%= @age %> years old.</p>
5 <h1>Iteration using scripts</h1>
6 <% for i in 1..5 %>
7   <p>Heading number <%= i %> </p>
8 <% end %>
9 <h1>A Simple Table</h1>
10 <table>
11   <tr>
12     <% @table["headings"].each do |head| %>
13       <th>
14         <%= head %>
15       </th>
16     <% end %>
17   </tr>
18
19   <% @table["body"].each do |row| %>
20     <tr>
21       <% row.each do |col| %>
22         <td>
23           <%= col %>
24         </td>
25       <% end %>
26     </tr>
27   <% end %>
28 </table>
~
<\greeting\index.html.erb" [unix] 28L, 531C written          27,2-5          All
```

28. So now when I reload the page:



### **Summary**

I installed ruby on rails on my PC. This was my fourth or fifth attempt. After each failure, I would uninstall and reboot. I also tried *Bitnami Ruby Stack*, which looks like it would be better as there are support email lists.

This final time worked by downloading the Rails installer. I modified Console2 so I could launch rails from it. Then I ran through chapter one of [Ruby on Rails Up and Running](#).

If you follow this procedure and are successful or have problems, let me know.