

## **Benjamin H. Latrobe to Thomas Jefferson, January 31, 1809, with Thomas Jefferson Note, from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited by Saul K. Padover.**

**Latrobe to Jefferson THE PRESIDENT OF THE U STATES**

*Washington, January 31st 09*

*Sir,*

Your letter of the 29th<sup>64</sup> relative to the Glass supplied to you from the public Stock, was received on Sunday and I have since then searched all the papers belonging to the office for an account of it, an employment which took up the whole of yesterday, & part of this morning before I succeeded. I hope this will plead my apology for the late answer to your note. It was Mr Lenthall's habit to make all his entries on loose slips of paper, & never to throw away a memorandum even after it had ceased to be useful. Immediately after his death the order in which all these slips were kept was disturbed by the family in examining his papers: & prior to the first date of the book I now keep it is difficult to find any thing relating to the public accts without a thorough search.

64 Unable to locate this letter. — S.K.P.

In the account stated the prices are put down agreeably to the rate at which we have sold the glass which was too small for the windows of the public buildings, and at which Mr Clephan the

glazier has himself bought it to sell again. But when it is considered that the Glass which you have received has been cut out of useless pieces, I think it ought not be charged

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higher than the small Glass can be bought by the box in common times, to wit from 12 to 13 \$ p box containing 100 feet superfl. and at this price, namely 12 ½ Cents p foot Mr Barry the painter paid for his Glass, if I am not very much mistaken.

The account rendered by Mr Lenox, was directed by me to be charged at 10cts being the actual cost to the public by the Crate, & making no allowance for breakage. In the annexed account I have put down every thing at this price. At the same time I copy the account for you from Mr Lenthall's statement, which I always till now supposed to have been rendered long ago to the Superintendant to whom it is directed & for whom it is made out.

I am with the highest respect Yrs

B Henry Latrobe

[Ms., *Jefferson Papers*, Library of Congress.]

Copy).

*The President of the United States Dr From the Capitol*

1808 March 15th.

To 200 panes of Glass cut 12 x 12 — @ 22cts 44\$—

300 do 12 x 18 40 120—

50 do 14 x 18 50 25—

No. 8 boxes for package of do 5.04

averaging 25 6/10 pr foot65

65 Comment by Jefferson.

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\$194.04

from the Presidents house 422ft. 9in do 12 50.73

averaging 12. cents pr. foot65 224.77

[Ms., *Jefferson Papers*, Library of Congress.]

Thos. Jefferson, *Presidt.* US. Dr.

*To Thos. Munroe Supt. city of Washn. For Glass cut from the public Stock. North Wing, Capitol —*

1808 March

200 squares 12 × 12 @ 10cts = \$20.

300 do 12 × 18 15 = 45

50 do 14 × 18 17½ = 8.75

No. 8 packing boxes 5.04

78.79

Presidents' house 422ft. 9in supeftl. @10cts 42.27

121.06

The above squares of Glass, being cut from the parts of Tables which were useless for glazing the large Windows of the public Bldgs, are charged at the price at which the public bought them by the Crate.

B Henry Latrobe *Surv. Pblc Bldgs U. S.*

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January 31st 1809.

[Ms., *Jefferson Papers*, Library of Congress.]