

**William Short to Thomas Jefferson, April 26, 1791 , from
Thomas Jefferson and William Short Correspondence,
Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt,
Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

William Short to Thomas Jefferson

Paris April 26. 1791.

Dear SirPrivate

Petit is now here & intends going by the French packet which will sail from L'Orient the 15th of next month. He insisted on 100# a month & seemed convinced from your letter that you would think it fully reasonable. Of course as far as the arrangement depends on me his wages are fixed at that rate. I had supposed from his letters written whilst I was in Holland that he would have been glad to have gone for less.

The commission with which you charged me in your letter of Jan. 24 (the last which I have had the pleasure of receiving from you) is executed & I think will be fully to your satisfaction. I shall send you by Petit the part you desired as well as the details respecting it. I shall send you also your reveille. Chanterot is making the clock. The price he asks is the same with that of the salle des ventes (15 guineas). Of course I thought it best to employ him. It will be done in three weeks & immediately sent to Havre. Houdon sent the dress some time ago. I suppose you will have seen Paine's answer to Mr. Burke on the French revolution. It has made much noise in England & pleases a good deal here. What surprizes me most is that he was not prosecuted for it, as he remained in London some time after its publication & it was the opinion of able lawyers that it was libellous in many

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parts & treasonable in still more. It is much in Paine's style, that is to say incorrect-with strong expressions & bold ideas. Adieu. Yr. friend, W. Short

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