

**Thomas Jefferson to Washington , D.C.,
Commissioners, December 23, 1792, from Thomas
Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited by Saul K.
Padover.**

Jefferson to Commissioners JEFFERSON TO THE COMMISSIONERS

Philadelphia 23d. December 1792

Gentlemen, Thinking it best that you should received all possible information on the subject of procuring workmen, in order that you may avail yourselves of such parts of it as circumstances render eligible, I have the honor to mention to you, that in a conversation with Mr. Pierpoint Edwards and Colonel Wadsworth of Connecticut, they inform me that any number of house Carpenters may be got in that State, as far perhaps as 500, or 1000, their wages # of a Dollar and to be fed. They have but few Masons, however some may be had, they combine their, [sic] the cutting and laying stone, and laying brick. they mention one Trowbridge as one of their best workmen. however I could not find that he had ever done anything higher than stonesteps. he never had even cut a column. his wages a Dollar a day and fed. they think also that common labourers may be got there, they observe that Connecticut is a better place to apply to than Boston where there being a greater deman for workmen, they are dearer and more difficult to draw from their own Country. I have the honor to be with great esteem, Gentlemen, &c.

Th: Jefferson

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[Pp. 130–131, COMMISSIONERS' LETTERBOOK, Vol. I, 1791–1793, in the National Archives; pp. 20–21, . . . DOCUMENTARY HISTORY . . . OF THE CAPITOL. . . .]