

# The Execution of Louis XVI

by Georg Heinrich Sieveking

Georg Heinrich Sieveking (1751–1799) was a prosperous merchant from Hamburg (now a city in Germany). He admired French Enlightenment thinkers and the anti-monarchical spirit of the French Revolution, but later, after the “Terror” in Paris and the execution of the King and thousands of other “enemies of the people,” Sieveking revised his views and wrote a famous letter: “I am not a Jacobin.”

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## Primary Source:



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**Citation:** Georg Heinrich Sieveking, *Execution of Louis XVI*, 1793, copper-plate engraving, Charlottesville, VA., Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello.