

1805
Jan 1

Th^o Jefferson Esq^r
President of the U.S.

Please your excellency
as the father of American Independence, as the protector
and best judge of arts and sciences, and as the chief
Magistrate of our flourishing Empire, I fulfill the
duty of a citizen, who has the happiness to live under
your wise Government, by informing your excellency
that at 9 o'clock in the morning the 30th of Dec:
1804, I did discover the long wished for, principle
of Reaction, and consequently, that of perpetual
motion. I should have wished to keep silent on this
the model should have been finished to present it
for the inspection of your excellency, but as I must
employ different mechanics for the execution, I am under
apprehension that it should be the means of losing
a property which if success crown my hopes, will carry
my name to posterity. — Should I meet any obstacle
which should contradict my sanguine expectations, in the
execution of the same, I should with the same frankness
take the liberty of informing your excellency of the
non success, and when finished, I will submit it to the
inspection of your excellency, which will be probably
about next April!

I remain with the highest sentiments of respect
and the most profound veneration
your excellency's

Most obedient & h^{ble} Serv^t
David F. Laury

New York
Jan^y the 5th 1805.

President of the ...

Lenny Davis Jr. N.Y. Jan. 10. 1852

Faded handwritten text, likely a letter or report, covering the majority of the page.