

Sir

Washington May 3. 1806.

I have received the treatise describing the very ingenious ~~new~~  
~~new~~ Bathometer for sounding the depths of the sea, which you were  
so kind as to send me, and with it a model of the instrument itself.  
I pray you, Sir, to accept my thanks for this mark of your attention.  
our Nation, as a publick body, being at present engaged in no pursuit  
where the use of this ingenious machine could be employed, I have  
supposed I could not better answer your views, nor place it where it  
would be more likely to be of utility, than by presenting it to the  
American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia. I have therefore  
consigned it to that depository, together with the treatise, where, better  
than in any other place, it's value will be justly estimated, and it's  
subject be most likely to be brought into general notice.

Accept, I pray you, my salutations & assurances of respect.

M. A. Van Stierman

Luisius J. Van Stijmaen. May 3. 06.

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*[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

