

**Thomas Jefferson to Benjamin Stoddert, February 21, 1801 , from The Works of Thomas Jefferson in Twelve Volumes. Federal Edition. Collected and Edited by Paul Leicester Ford.**

**TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY J. MSS. (BENJAMIN STODDERT.)**

Washington, Feb. 21, 1801.

Sir, —Your favor of the 18th did not get to my hand till yesterday. I thank you for the accommodation in point of time therein offered. Circumstances may render it a convenience; in which case I will avail myself of it, without too far encroaching on your wishes. At this instant it is not in my power to say anything certain on the subject of time. The declarations of support to the administration of our government are such as were to be expected from your character and attachment to our Constitution. I wish support from no quarter longer than my object candidly scanned, shall merit it; & especially, not longer than I shall rigorously adhere to the Constitution. I am with respect, Sir your most obedient humble servant.