(Copy)

Sir

Pittston August 30th 1797.

This day received yours of the 14th instant enclosed in a letter from Genl Lincoln — in answer to the complaint about a well; I was at considerable expence in digging in several places on the Island with a view of ascertaining where a durable well could be obtained one of which places was within about three rods of the house, and after what I thought a fair experiment determined on stoning it & fixed it for use, this well was sunk in October 1795, we used the water for all my workmen and drew thro' the whole course of the summer and fall — in August and September we had a severe drought, but there was no want of water, it was therefore presumed that the well would be sufficient for all the purposes it was intended for, and I have never heard of any want of water, neither do I believe there is any want, or will be, — as to the electrical conductors, there was no other deficiency but the want of a very small alteration in the lower short joint, which was not crooked

exactly conformably to the make of the rock or foundation but they are as perfectly safe as any conductors could be. It was difficult to determine precisely what ought to be the diameter of the copper air pipes which goes through the floor, I made it about four inches in diameter, from what I have heard I suspect that it will be necessary to have a larger one, I will see that it is done, I shall go to Seguin in a few days and will see, that what is necessary is done. — I have been informed by several of your Coasters that the Seguin light can be seen farther than any other light in New England.

I am, Sir with much esteem

your very Hum. Servt

(signed) Henry Dearborn

Tench Coxe Esq.

aug^{t} 30. 1797