

When people have too many questions, then sooner or later they will ask us scientists.

But I forgot to introduce myself. I am Pierre Aronnax, Professor at the Paris Museum of Natural History and author of the famous book, *The Mysteries of the Great Ocean Depths*.

Naturally everyone wanted to know my views on the matter. In my article, I argued that it was impossible for it to be a human construction, since such an undertaking could not have gone unnoticed anywhere in the world. **It must be a giant narwhal with a long tusk like the ram of a ship!**



A few days later, my assistant Conseil brought me a letter:

Dear Professor Aronnax,  
The government of the United States has organized an expedition to discover the sea monster. The frigate *Abraham Lincoln* will depart promptly. We would be honoured if an expert such as yourself would participate in this mission. Commander Farragut has a cabin at your disposal.

Cordially yours,  
J. B. Hobson  
Secretary of the Navy



Conseil and I had just packed our suitcases to return to Paris but the invitation was of immense scientific interest. So we agreed immediately and in no time we were aboard the *Abraham Lincoln* ready to sail.

