DAVID WHELEAM SMITH

З

[JAMES]

on that score. As I have begun the canvass, I am determined to go through with it, and should I succeed, I hope to support my character afterwards. We shall not certainly have the province there four years, so that wherever the seat of government may be, or whatever may be the destination of the regt., I make no doubt that I shall be able to attend the Council and assembly arry. My having done the settlers' business without emoluments your any quarter, should be some inducement to them, on the score of gratitude, to return me. I rather think it is intended that the people who have French grants on the garrison side should vote; as the description of the county of Kent comprehends a great deal, and sends two members. It is said to contain all the country (not being territories of the Indians), and not already included in Essex and the several other counties described, extending northward to the boundary line of Hudson's bay, including all the territory to the westward and southward of the said line to the utmost extent of the country called or known by the name Canada.

Should candidates to represent this county go a-begging, and you find I have no chance for Essex. I shall be proud to be returned for this county, but as the French people know little of me, I have not any hopes on that score. I am very ill at present, myself, or I would certainly go up to Detroit, but if the people are sincere that is unnecessary, and this will give it a fair trial. You will do me a service by delivering to Mr. Pollard the names of those capable to vote, which you can get from a small register in the land office, marked or rather endorsed, "Certificates granted," and another endorsed "French grants en roture."

If any of Monforton's or Maisonville's company have received certificates since my departure, I will be thankful to you to use your influence with them. Col. McKee has promised me his interest, so has the commodore (Alexander Grant), and I think I may depend on Captain Elliott, George Leith, and a few others. When I wrote you last, it was expected that Grosse Isle, River Raisin and Rouge would have voted with the settlers, but that is not the case.

Jacques Parent, Laurent Parent, Chaude Rheaum, Bapt. Le Duc and John Bapt. Hortelle, just above the Huron church (Sandwich), may probably ask for an explanation to my letters to them. They had lands "en roture" formerly granted by Mons. Longueil, and they, of course, have indisputably votes. I have therefore addressed them separately. These are the only French deeds acknowledged by the "Tableau des Terres en roture" on that side of the water.

I am sure you will forgive me for sending so large a pacquet to you. The most of them are for the freeholders on Lake Eric, all whose names