

assuredly are the fittest objects of your present choice. Gratitude for their able and devoted conduct, demands this—consistency, to show that the principles ye applaud, ye are willing to support, demands it—your character in the eyes of those who far and near have been watching the rising spirit of the country, demands it;—and have not these men many recommendations? Some of them would do honour to any public deliberative assembly in the universe, and all have shewn that unbending integrity in the cause of liberty which is the great glory of the British character. Local considerations may and ought to have some influence on your choice; but where would the power be to do local good, if all power were lost?—Could another branch of the government controul and dictate to your representatives in money matters, their ability to do local good might be put in a nut shell. Those who contended for your rights, contended for the vital principal on which all other matters in the representative body rest, as the building rests on the foundation. If then ye intend to change any of the thirty three, who deserve so much from you, let *their* conduct in the late dispute be the line which your future members shall be called on peremptorily to pledge themselves to follow. In other matters ye may get others to act as well, but when your existence as British freemen was attacked, their conduct was deserving of all praise.

Not only are ye called on by love of freedom and justice to act on general principles now—but ye have more direct and less evasible inducements. The great prerogative which ye, as electors, are about to exercise, is not a holiday sport; or a game in which prejudices, interests, and friendships should decide on defeat or victory. It is a most solemn national occasion, on which a number of men are set apart for public purposes, are chosen from among their fellows to be a voice and an arm to the country in its legislative capacity, for the ensuing seven years. Religion which teaches us our duty to God, to ourselves and to our neighbours, binds you to act uprightly, conscientiously, and independently in this matter. The man who neglects his civil rights, is as bad a christian as he is a citizen—the Apostle says, that, he who minds them not, is worse than an infidel, and if we can im-