

*To the Free and Independent
Electors of the Counties of
YORK & SIMCOE.*

Gentlemen,

I acknowledge great pride in having been twice solicited by many of you to offer myself to your choice for the important and honorable service of Representative for these Counties in the House of Assembly. Having declined the first, I cannot withdraw myself from this second invitation, which can alone be founded on the expectation of rigid integrity towards the Constitution of the Country: I therefore now solicit this choice, humbly presuming that my hopes are well founded, and that yours will not be disappointed.

Though twenty years residence here has necessarily honored me with a personal acquaintance with most of you, I cannot dare to think that this supersedes all necessity of declaring to you my sentiments generally on Legislation in this Province. I therefore profess to you an affectionate regard for British Liberty and British Constitution; and that your Representative, whoever he may be, should, in the discharge of his duties, never forget that these two objects of his care are, the one to the other, the best and only Bulwark, and that to preserve the latter ever pure, the first must be preserved unwounded. I know, Gentlemen, that your good sense convinces you, that it is not the duty of your Representative to oppose, through a spirit of faction, the fair, beneficial, and legitimate objects of the Administration; but you also know, that the purest Administration requires a vigilant activity on the part of all its constitutional checks.

It will, Gentlemen, perhaps be said to you, that I hold an appointment under the Crown; true, an honorable one.—I feel thankful to the Administration that gave it, and the Government that has continued it to me; but your choice will necessarily remove the objection, (if it be any in your estimation,) as the Office must, in the event of my Election, be surrendered.

I will at present only add, that whatever be the event, the prosperity of the Province at large, and of these Counties in particular, will, during my life, always be an object of earnest anxiety to me.

I have the Honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your very obedient Servant,

WM. WARREN BALDWIN.

York, March 3d, 1820.