

TO THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELECTORS
OF THE
TOWN OF BROCKVILLE.

GENTLEMEN,

It is very probable you will shortly be afforded an opportunity of exercising the elective franchise in returning a member to represent you in the United Legislature, and great as the privilege at all times is, and however necessary it may have hitherto been to exercise it with the utmost circumspection, at no period in the history of the Colony have you been so imperatively called on as you now are, to canvass the political principles of those who may call on you for your suffrages.

Feeling a deep interest in the welfare of the Province in general, and of this Town in particular, I have resolved to offer myself as a Candidate for the high honor of representing you in Parliament; and this step I am induced to take in consequence of the kind assurance I have received from many of you of your cordial support.

Of my ability to advocate your rights it is not proper for me to speak, but allow me to say, I should consider it a degradation instead of an honor to receive your votes without being able and willing to represent your feelings and opinions. And in order that there may be no misapprehension regarding my own principles I beg to state that I am of opinion that this Province has been long misgoverned, and that such misgovernment has in a great measure, led to the deplorable situation in which it is now placed:—That its resources have been wasted and misapplied so that a large debt has been contracted without any corresponding improvement having been effected:—that partizanship, and not moral worth and qualification, has in too many cases been the passport to Office. But, that it is the desire of the Parent State to remove these abuses, there cannot be a doubt, and I have the most perfect confidence in the expressed determination of His Excellency the Governor General to establish a liberal, impartial and economical system of Government, and to administer it “in accordance with the wishes of the people as expressed through their Representatives.” In carrying out *such* a system of Government it shall be my aim to lend my utmost support; but bad measures, from whatever quarter they may come recommended, will meet with my determined opposition.

These, Gentlemen, are my views and determinations, and of my honesty in their advocacy, should I be honoured with your support, I can only refer you to the knowledge you have of my past life.

Were I returned to Parliament, I should never allow myself to be blinded by local prejudices, but as you are aware that nearly all I possess is situate here, you have the strongest possible pledge that the various interests of this prosperous Town would not be neglected by me.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, Your very humble servant,

J. BOGERT.

Brockville, 5th Nov. 1840.