

S P E E C H

OF HIS EXCELLENCY

John Graves Simcoe, Esquire,

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

of the Province of Upper-Canada, &c. &c. &c.

Upon proroguing the Fifth Session of the Provincial Parliament of Upper-Canada.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly!

TH E public business of the sessions being brought to a conclusion, it is with pleasure, I consider your proceedings therein, have been marked with the same attention to the welfare of the province, which has distinguished your conduct throughout the whole of this, the first provincial parliament of Upper-Canada; and which draws near to its termination agreeably to the laws.

It is not possible for me, without emotion, to contemplate, that we have been called upon to execute the most important trust that can be delegated by the king and British parliament, during a period of awful and stupendous events, which still agitate the greater part of mankind, and which have threatened to involve all that is valuable in civil society in one promiscuous ruin;—However remote we have been happily placed from the scene of these events, we have not been without their influence; but by the blessing of God, it has only been sufficient to prove, that this province founded upon the rock of loyalty demonstrates one common spirit in the defence of their king, and their country.

IN the civil provisions for the establishment and maintenance of our constitution, and the benefits flowing therefrom, we shall, I trust, always recollect with great satisfaction, that we have been actuated and guided by a fair and upright desire to lay the foundations of private right and of public prosperity.

I HUMBLY believe that his Majesty, the father of his people, and the beneficent founder of this loyal province, will accept our endeavors to perpetuate these blessings, which it is his wish should attend his faithful subjects and their remotest posterity.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen!

It is our immediate duty to recommend our public acts to our fellow subjects by the efficacy of our private example; and to contribute in this tract of the British empire, to form a nation, obedient to the laws, frugal, temperate, industrious;—Impressed with a steadfast love of justice, of honor, of public good, with unshaken probity and fortitude amongst men, with christian piety and gratitude to God!

CONSCIOUS of the intention of well-doing I shall ever cherish, with reverence, & humble acknowledgement, the remembrance, that it is my singular happiness to have born to this province the powers, the privileges, the principles and the practice of the British constitution; this perpetual monument of the good will of the empire, the reward of tried affection and loyalty, can best fulfill the just end of all government, as the experience of ages past proved by communicating universally protection and prosperity, to those who make a rightful use of its advantages.