

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDACY OF DAVID W. SMITH

Mouth of Detroit River Friday 16th Aug^t 1792.

Dear Sir When I left Niagara, I was requested by Mr Smith to wait on you the moment of my arrival at Detroit, to assure you, how sensible he is, of the great obligation he owes to you and his other worthy friends, who have so strenuously supported his interest in the present contest for a representative in the house of Assembly: Be assured Sir, that I should have been extremely happy had circumstances permitted me to have made you a personal report of his sentiments on this occasion, but my late sickness rendered it necessary for me to get ashore as soon as possible.

Mr Smith (from the experienced goodness and partiality of his friends) flatters himself with the hopes of Success & he purposes, in that event, to make his acknowledgements in person, as soon as his present hurry of indispensable business is a little subsided: And Lest he should have omitted to make application to any of the Electors, he gave me half a dozen addresses with blank superscriptions, which I now beg leave to enclose to you for that purpose

With every sentiment of regard I have the honor to be

D^r Sir Your Most Obedient humble Servant

John Askin Esq^r Detroit.

P. Selby.³¹

Addressed: John Askin Esquire Detroit

LEGISLATIVE CANDIDACY OF DAVID W. SMITH

Saturday 17th Aug^t 92.

Dear Sir When I did myself the honor of writing to you yesterday I forgot to mention, that in case Mr Smith is likely to be hard run, I have some Votes to bring forward at a short notice, but, I would rather avoid their appearing, unless it was absolutely necessary; of this you will be able to judge, in sufficient time, to send me information.

³¹ Prideaux Selby was a lieutenant in the Fifth Infantry and for a time assistant secretary of Indian Affairs at Detroit. He seems to have been transferred from Amherstburg to Queenston in the autumn of 1799. From 1809 until his death, May 9, 1813, he was a member of the Executive Council of Upper Canada. See *Simcoe Papers*, I, 150; and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.