

Letter Bk. I. rogued our Assembly to the 16th of next July after a Session of 3 weeks in which time I succeeded with them so far as to procure the Sum of £500 for a present to be sent to the Six Indian nations who are to be met in obedience to the Letter from the Lords of Trade at Albany the 14th Inst, by Commissioners from the several Governm^{ts} on the Continent. A Bill also was sent from the Lower House with the specious Preamble of being for His Majesty's Service, whereby the Sum of

p. 49 £3000 was to be granted for the support of the neighbouring Colonies against any Attempts of the French or other hostile Troops: but the old Clause concerning Hawkers & Pedlars (whereby your Lordships Right to forfeitures is disputed) being inserted therein & the Lower House in many Conferences obstinately persisting that not the least Concession should on their part be made with respect to that Article the Bill was returned them with a negative & so the Affair Dropt. While I am on this Topick I will beg leave to submit to your Lordship's Consideration whether it be impracticable or improper to fall on any method to put a Stop to such Perverseness as might generally be perceived in the proceedings of our Lower Houses of Assembly which is in great measure owing to the short Duration of our Sessions which terminate at the end of 3 years: few Gentⁿ will submit so frequently to the inconveniences that such as canvass for Seats in that House must necessarily subject themselves to; by which means there are too many Instances of the lowest Persons at least Men of small fortunes no Soul & very mean Capacities appearing as Representatives of their respective Counties; As there would be no want I apprehend of Gentⁿ to appear as Candidates if the Drudgery of Electioneering was to return less frequently. I submit to your Lordships Wisdom whether there may be any impropriety (if a more agreeable Choice of Members should be made) in continuing the next Assembly for more years than has been lately usual or customary—Your Ldp was pleased by your Instructions to forbid the Removal of any Iustices or

p. 50 Magistrates without your Ldps express Lycence or permission but as several had crept into the Commission who were unqualified & vastly unworthy to be intrusted with such power as is given by such Commission especially as the 600 Law has now taken place I did presume when I issued the last Commission to the several Counties (which is done annually) to leave out such persons names as I was assured were improper to be vested with any authority or power in your Ldp's Govern^t & I cannot but mention to your Ldp a seeming Impropriety with respect to the Judges or Magistrates of the supreme or provincial Court, Several of the County Clerks who are in their respective Counties as it were Servants of the Bench which is