

reason to believe that if I had declined to comply with their Requests they would have applied directly to His Ldp or Yourself in such Person's behalf; Few if any of these Recommendations have been in favour of Assembly-Men & some of the Persons recommended have proved very unworthy of the Favours they obtained. Was it His Ldp's Pleasure to leave the Disposal of all those Offices that are not bestowed on Councillors entirely to Myself & to signify to those who may apply to him that he is determined to take Notice of no Applications for Favour unless they come to him thro my hands, I should flatter myself that in a few years many more of the Delegates might be brought to act a moderate Part, but at the same time I do not think that all the Offices which are in the Gift or Disposal of the Ld Proprietary or his Deputy exclusive of those which are enjoyed by Members of the Council are sufficient to secure a Majority in the Lower House. As to the Offices of Deputy Surveyors & Deputy Commissaries of which there is one in each County they are of so little Value (hardly three of them being worth more than £50 a year, most of them not more than £30 & some not even £10 p^r Ann) that I am persuaded very few Members of the Assembly who are capable of executing them (for many are not, nay can scarcely write) would choose to resign their Seats in the Lower House for such Offices tho they have been hitherto held for Life or as long as the Persons on whom they have been conferred behaved well & found themselves able to execute them. Indeed since I have been in the Province the Sessions of Assembly have been so frequent that every member who attended has got much more a year for that Service (being allowed at the Rate of fourteen Shillings a Day & Travelling Charges) than the best of the abovementioned Offices are worth: Who then among them would exchange their Places in the Lower House for trifling Offices & instead of being Favourites of the People & (as they conceive themselves) Persons of great Consequence, become as would certainly be the Case obnoxious to most of their Neighbours & of no Consequence at all. Besides according to your Plan these Offices must be made triennial or else there would be none of them to bestow on other Assembly men after the first & if they were to be made triennial I am satisfied that scarcely a member in the House would thank me for bestowing such Offices on themselves or their Friends even without its being made a Condition that they should in Consideration of their being so rewarded give only one Vote contrary to their Inclinations. I have you will perceive supposed that the fourteen Deputy Commissaries as well as the fourteen Deputy Surveyors are appointed by His Ldp's Lieut^t Governor but this is not the