

The legislature.

In the colony are only two negatives in the legislature, the governor and house of representatives, called the assembly. The council so called, is only the proprietor's council to the proprietor's governor, but not a king's council; they have no concern in the legislature otherways than by advising the governor in his negative. The acts of legislature run thus, "Be it enacted by the honourable — Esq; lieutenant governor of the province of Pennsylvania, and of the counties of New-castle, Kent and Suffex on Delaware river; by and with the consent of the representatives of the freemen of said province, in general assembly met."

The governor of Pennsylvania is only the proprietary Penn's deputy, and is stiled lieutenant governor and his honour; his salary in late years has been per annum 1000*l.* currency out of the excise duty for the province of Pennsylvania, and 200*l.* per ann. from the territories called the three lower counties. By act of parliament, all lieutenant governors or deputies nominated by lords proprietors, or principal hereditary governors of British colonies in North-America, must have the royal approbation.

The proper province of Pennsylvania was at first divided into the three counties of Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester, each sending eight representatives to the assembly; about 20 years since was added the county of Lancaster, sending four representatives; and lately an addition is made of two new counties back inland, by the names of York and Cumberland, they are allowed only two members each; with two representatives from the city of Philadelphia, make thirty-four representatives, which compose the house of assembly. The qualification for an elector or elected, is, a freeman resident in the country for two years, and worth in real or personal estate, or both jointly, the value of fifty pounds their currency, which if required, is to be declared upon oath or affirmation.