

The three lower counties on Delaware river called the territories, are a distinct jurisdiction, and their assembly of representatives consists of six members from Newcastle county, six from Kent, and six from Sussex counties, in all eighteen members.

Their general assemblies are annually elective on the first day of the month of October. The representatives are not by towns or parish elections (Philadelphia excepted) as in New-England colonies, but by county elections. Pennsylvania proper, called the province, for many years, consisted of only three counties called the upper counties, viz. Buckingham county, chief town Bristol, nearly over-against Burlington of the Jerseys; Philadelphia county, chief town Philadelphia, in about 40 d. N. lat. and Chester county, chief town Chester, about 15 miles (on the river) below Philadelphia; and a few years since was made the inland county of Lancaster, chief town Lancaster, laying both sides of Setquahanna river; and very lately two more inland counties, York and Cumberland. The territories are called the three lower counties on Delaware river, viz. Newcastle county, chief town Newcastle, about 35 miles below Philadelphia; Kent county, chief town Dover; and Lewis county, chief town Lewis or Hore-kill, near cape Henlopen of Delaware bay.

Courts of judicature.

Juries are all returned by the sheriff, excepting in particular cases, but not often, there may be a struck jury by consent of parties, and that must be in the presence of one of the judges, the sheriff, and the parties.

The sheriffs and coroners are annually elected at the same time with the representatives, by a county election; the people elect two for each office, out of which the governor chuses one, who in the same manner may be re-elected for three years running, but after three years, cannot be re-elected, but by the intervention of three years out of office, and then is capable of a new election.

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