

## SCOTCH IRISH IN PENNSYLVANIA

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[NEWCASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE; CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND; CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA; LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA]

A southern stronghold of **PRESBYTERIANISM** was in the neighborhood of **NEWCASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE**. The narrow tongue of land between the upper shore of **CHESAPEAKE BAY** and the **DELAWARE RIVER** is shared by Maryland and Delaware. Maryland's portion includes the Elk River and is known as **CECIL COUNTY**.

**DELAWARE'S** portion is called **NEWCASTLE COUNTY**, with Wilmington, its chief city, at the mouth of **CHRISTANA CREEK**. North of these two counties and across the Pennsylvania Line are **LANCASTER** and **CHESTER COUNTIES** [all four of these locations are known as **CHESTER COUNTY** from 1682 to 1729], extending from the **DELAWARE RIVER** to the **SUSQUEHANNA RIVER**. This territory, south a few miles from **PHILADELPHIA**, became the mecca for **SCOTCH-IRISH** emigration from **IRELAND**. These emigrants pushed up through **NEWCASTLE COUNTY** to cross the Pennsylvania line, hoping to escape from **MARYLAND** and its tithes.

Very few Ulster weavers and farmers came to the south until word reached **IRELAND** late in 1718 that land was hard to obtain in **NEW ENGLAND** for settlement. In 1719 hundreds of Scotch-Irish immigrants turned to lands in **CHESTER COUNTY** and to the fields south of the Pennsylvania line for their homes. The **SCOTCH-IRISH** emigration of **PRESBYTERIANS** to **CHESTER COUNTY** began in 1719 and thus came to Pennsylvania long after the **ENGLISH-IRISH** migration of **QUAKERS** which begun in 1682. These **PRESBYTERIANS** became of sufficient influence in **CHESTER COUNTY** in 1722 to obtain the name **DONEGAL** for their township.

The **BAILIFF FAMILY** doesn't appear in Pennsylvania until **EDWARD BAYLIFF** appears in the 1740 tax list in **CHESTER COUNTY**.

**SOURCE:** Scotch-Irish Pioneers in Ulster and America by Charles Knowles Bolton 1967. Baltimore General Publishing Company.