Instructions to Commissioners going to Canada

Gentlemen, you are with all convenient dispatch to repair to canada & make known to the people of that country the wither wither inter home of the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the wirms of the united colories having been carried into that province for the propert of frustoating the design of the British court to guint our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat this hospile mach inations of governor Carlon agaings his, but that we shall put it into the power of our canadian brethreen to pursue fuch measures for serving their own freedom a trapping as a generous love of liberty and our hopping as a generous love of liberty and our hopping that distale to them.

e Inform them that in our judgment, their interests and own are insparably united - That is impossible we can be reduced to a service submission to great Britain without Hier Thuring our fale and on the other hand, if we Thall obtain, as we doubt not we thall, a full establishment of our right, it depends wholly on their choice, whether They will participale with us en those blessings, or thill remain judgies to every act of by runny, which briligh trimiflers that please to ear eige over them. Wage all fuch orguments as your prudence thall fuggest le l'enforce our opinion conversing the mutual interest of the two cours: tries and to convince them of the impossibility of the war being concluded to the dyadvantage of thise colonies, if we wiply a orgbroughy & operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them you are to declare that it is our inclination that the people of Eanda may fet up fuch a form of government as will be most likely in their judgment to produce their happiness

## March 20, 1776: Instructions to Commissioners Going to Canada

[BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, CHARLES CARROLL, AND SAMUEL CHASE]

Gentlemen, you are with all convenient dispatch to repair to Canada & make known to the people of that country the wishes & intentions of the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the arms of the united colonies having been carried into that province for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the British court against our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat the hostile machinations of governor Carlton against us, but that we shall put it into the power of our Canadian brethren to pursue such measures for serving their own freedom & happiness as a generous love of liberty and sound policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them that in our judgement, their interests and ours are inseparably united — that it is impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission to great Britain without their sharing our fate and on the other hand, if we shall obtain, as we doubt not we shall, a full establishment of our rights, it depends wholly on their choice, whether they will participate with us in those blessings, or shall remain subject to every act of tyranny, which british ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments as your prudence shall suggest to enforce our opinion concerning the mutual interest of the two countries and to convince them of the impossibilities of the war being concluded to the disadvantage of these colonies, if we wisely & vigorously co-operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them you are to declare that it is our inclination that the people of Canada may set up such a form of government as will be most likely in their judgement to produce their happiness.