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The Canadian High Commissioner and the
Provincial Agents-General.

(The Canada Year Book - 1926)
p. 87

The policy of the early North American colonies, of maintaining in London accredited representatives for business and diplomatic purposes, was recognized in the eighteenth century as being a more satisfactory means of communication with the British Government than that provided by occasional official visits or by correspondence. Edmund Burke, the noted British statesman, held the position of agent of the colony of New York for some years following 1771. Of the Canadian colonies, Nova Scotia was the first to adopt this plan, its Legislature having appointed an agent in London in 1761. New Brunswick was similarly represented in 1786, Upper Canada as early as 1794, Lower Canada in 1812 and British Columbia in 1857. For some years after 1845, several of the colonies were represented in London by Crown Agents, appointed by the Secretary of State, and paid by the colonies themselves. This system, however, was of but short duration.

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