

protect them. These matters furnish very strong arguments to be made use of by our enemies. With respect to the better sort of people, both French and English, seven-eighths are tories, who would wish to see our throats cut, and perhaps would readily assist in doing it.

"You may remember, sir, in a conversation with you at Albany, I urged the necessity of sending immediately to Canada, able Generals, a respectable army, a committee of congress, a suitable supply of hard cash, and a printer. Indeed, I had before represented those measures in person to congress, at least, to the committee of congress, and we have since been flattered, from time to time, that we should have one or all of these essentials."

The commissioners, alluded to by Colonel Hazen, had already been appointed by congress; and, on the day subsequent to the date of his letter, had departed from the city of New York on their way to Montreal.

On the 15th of February, '76, it was "Resolved that a committee of three—two of whom to be members of congress—be appointed to repair to Canada, there to pursue such instructions as shall be given them by that body."

Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Chase and Charles Carroll of Carrollton, were chosen for this purpose, (the two first named being members), and, by a special resolution, the last mentioned gentleman was desired "to prevail on Mr. John Carroll to accompany the committee to Canada to assist them in such matters as they shall think useful."

This gentleman, who afterwards became the first Roman Catholic Archbishop of the United States, had already received holy orders in Europe. He was a Jesuit of distinguished theological attainments, and was celebrated for his amiable manners and polished address.

Whilst congress was anxious to aid the cool judgment of Franklin by the intrepidity of Chase and the courtly address of Carroll, it went still further, and requested this