

Commissioners were Benjamin Franklin, a delegate to the Congress from Pennsylvania, Samuel Chase, one of the delegates from Maryland, and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, in Maryland, subsequently also a delegate. The various titles of the delegates were somewhat ostentatiously set forth, but this may have been intended as a mark of respect to those to whom they were sent.

The Commissioners were accompanied by the Rev. John Carroll of Maryland, a Roman Catholic clergyman, who subsequently became Archbishop of Baltimore. They left Philadelphia in the latter part of March, 1776, New York on the second of April, ascending the Hudson in a sloop, and did not reach Montreal until the twenty-ninth of the month, the distance being about four hundred miles; which, as the editor of Charles Carroll's journal of the expedition notes, is now performed in two days. This journey was not one then that would be selected for a pleasure trip. Great part of the country through which they passed was then a wilderness, and they had to struggle through the snow and ice attendant upon a Canadian spring. Tents made of brush-wood were occasionally their resting places. Two days spent with General Schuyler at Albany appear to have been the pleasantest part of their journey, and the charms of his "daughters, (Betsy and Peggy) lively, agreeable, black eyed girls," are duly chronicled. The former of these ladies still survives,—the widow of Alexander Hamilton.

On reaching Montreal, we were "received (says Charles Carroll in his Journal) by General Arnold on our landing, in the most polite and friendly manner; conducted to head quarters, where a genteel company of ladies and gentlemen had assembled to welcome our arrival. As we went from the landing place to the General's house, the cannon of the citadel fired a compliment to us as the Commissioners of Congress. We supped at that General's, and after supper were conducted by the General and other gentlemen to our lodgings—the house of Mr. Thomas Walker—the best built and perhaps the best furnished house in this town."

The Commissioners made but little impression upon the Canadians. There had been some small show of a party in favour of union with the other Colonies while the Americans were successful, but since the fall of Montgomery the cause of the invaders had come to a stand. On the 11th of May, Dr. Franklin, whose health had been much impaired by the journey, and who saw clearly the hopelessness of their mission, set out to return to Congress. The Rev. Mr. Carroll accompanied him, and the kindness displayed by him during the journey was not forgotten. Through Franklin's recommendation whilst minister at the Court of France, Mr. Carroll was placed at the head of the Roman Catholic clergy in the United States, which opened the way to his