

For several years he labored at his project, but it was not until 1614, six years after the foundation of Quebec, that he succeeded. It was then that he met with a band of missionaries, men after his own heart, "full of zeal for the uplifting of souls and affection for the Glory of God." They were the Franciscan Friars, or Recollects, as they were then called.

The Recollects were one of the four branches of the Franciscans whom one same Minister-General governed with the title of Minister-General of the whole Order of Friars-Minor. The name of Recollect has ceased to exist since 1897, when the Pope Leo XIII convinced that the benefits accruing to the Church and to souls from the apostolic ministry of the Friars would be more abundant and more lasting if, as in the early days of the Order, the union were more perfect, amalgamated all the branches of the Order under the name, chosen by the Seraphic Patriarch himself, and so expressive of their unity, of Friars Minor or Franciscans.

On March 15th, 1615, the four Franciscans who were destined to be the first Apostles in Canada, left Paris and set out on foot for the city of Rouen. Here they met Champlain and deliberated together concerning the coming voyage.

It was decided that they should set out from the port of Honfleur, for in those days and for many years before, Honfleur was a port of great maritime importance. It was owing to the devastations of war,

