

*The Treaty of Ghent which ended the War of 1812  
became official on February 17, 1815.*



*Pictured above is the famous painting by Amedee Forestier finished in 1914 which showed the principal negotiators from Great Britain exchanging copies of the negotiated treaty at Ghent, Belgium, ending the War of 1812. Picture are Dr. William Adams, Admiralty Lawyer, Admiral, Lord Gambier, and Colonial Office undersecretary Henry Goulburn along with American representatives, Senator James A. Bayard, Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin, minister to Russia, John Quincy Adams, and U.S. Representative Henry Clay. Although the negotiated settlement was reached and signed on December 24, 1814, it would be several months before the treaty signed at Ghent would become an official treaty in the eyes of both countries. The Prince Regent, later George IV of Great Britain, signed the treaty on December 28, 1814. The U;S Senate first had to ratify the treaty and then have it sent to President Madison to sign, which he did on February 16. The treaty became official at 11 a.m. 17 February 1815.*

*(Painting is in Smithsonian Art Museum, Washington, D.C.)*