

tern and northern boundary are. I did so, and I reported my conclusions, and those are before the Committee. I would further remind the Committee that I am not here on behalf of Ontario, nor at her instance. I am here by summons from this Committee, and would have preferred not to have been here at all.

*By Mr. Mousseau :—*

44. Were you under instructions similar to those given to Judge Ramsay?—I was under no instructions beyond the fact that I was to investigate the subject fully and report my conclusions.

*By Mr. Royal :—*

45. By the Treaty of Paris, 10th February, 1763, Canada was ceded by France to England. About eight months afterwards, on the 7th October, 1763, the four Provinces were established by the King's Proclamation in the territories ceded. About 15 years afterwards, on the 3rd September, 1778, took place the Treaty of Paris between the United States and England, by which the boundary between the American States and Canada was established. Now, the next thing is, by the Quebec Act of 1774 a Constitution was given the Province of Quebec and new limits established for that Province, as declared by the Proclamation of 1763. Do you consider that Ontario goes west of the western portion of Quebec as constituted by the Quebec Act?—That is a matter of opinion—a question of law—not of fact.

46. Well, as you have studied this question?—Well, I have nothing to add to what is stated in my report.

47. As the desire was expressed, would you be kind enough to give us a synopsis, a condensation of your report so as to save time, that is the object of my question?—I would prefer not to answer anything beyond any question of fact you may ask me. I was in here yesterday while the investigation was being conducted, and I heard questions put with regard to the construction of certain portions of the Quebec Act, that, in my opinion, with a very slight cross-examination based upon a more intimate acquaintance with the subject, would lead to an entirely different result and convey a wholly different opinion from that which was conveyed by the statements made. Any summary statement on my part might convey an erroneous impression to the Committee. Besides, the report is but a brief summary of the facts. If I were to give an opinion, I would say that before an intelligible enquiry can be made with regard to those matters to which you refer there are certain preliminary facts, if I may so call them, that are of very great importance. They are indispensable to a proper interpretation of those various public documents, which ought to be examined by the Committee. A consideration of the previous condition of things, and the policy that the Imperial Government had in view when they established, by the Proclamation of October, 1763, the Province of Quebec; the various projects that were submitted to them by distinguished colonists and by leading statesmen in England, the conflicting opinions entertained by those who for short intervals of time governed the country during that period, and the final determination of the Government immediately before the passage of the Quebec Act—a consideration of all those, it seems to me, is necessary to a proper understanding of the Act itself. These I have endeavored to set out concisely in my second report, and I do not know that any statement I could make to the Committee would be any clearer or more brief than the statement there given. I think the Committee will find, not simply by referring to the report, but also by referring to the various documents mentioned in the report—many of which are given in the appendix—that the Government had before it, for some years, the propriety of establishing three other colonies, one with Detroit for its centre, another with Pittsburg for its centre, and another in the Illinois country; that Lord Shelburne favored this view, that General Conway and several other English statesmen also favored it; that Mr. Franklin pressed the subject on the attention of the Government; that Lord Hillsborough and his friends in the Board of Trade were determinedly hostile to the western extension of the English Colonies, or to the establishment of new ones, as being inimical to British interests; that ultimately the views of those who wished to exclude the English altogether from the west side of the Alleghany Mountains, prevailed in the Government; that in ac-