

Ontario on the one part and the Province of Manitoba on the other part, of which the Federal Government is in possession of a copy. The claim is therein expressed as follows:—

“The Province of Ontario claims that the westerly boundary of that Province is either (1) the meridian of the most north-westerly angle of the Lake of the Woods, as described in a certain award made on the 3rd August, 1878, by the Honorable Chief Justice Harrison, Sir Edward Thornton and Sir Francis Hincks, or (2) is a line west of that point.”

With respect to your further request for a statement of the reasons given by my Attorney-General for abandoning his claim to that part of the territory lying between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains, I may state that there is no official document giving the reasons for any such abandonment. It was perceived during the argument before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council that their Lordships' strong opinion was against a more westerly line than the arbitrators had found, and the Attorney-General, in consequence, after conferring with the learned counsel associated with him, limited the claim of the Province to the most north-westerly angle of the Lake of the Woods.

In answering your despatch, I venture to express the hope that your Government will take such steps forthwith as may procure, without any further delay, the passing of an Act by the Imperial Parliament to give effect to the decision of Her Majesty in Council.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
JOHN BEVERLY ROBINSON, *Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.*

Secretary of State, Ottawa.

In the Privy Council.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, WHITEHALL, Wednesday, 16th June, 1884.

Present—The Right Honorable Lord Chancellor,
The Right Honorable the Lord President,
The Right Honorable Lord Aberdare,
The Right Honorable Sir Barnes Peacock,
The Right Honorable Sir Montague E. Smith,
The Right Honorable Sir Robert P. Collier.

SPECIAL CASE BETWEEN THE PROVINCES OF ONTARIO AND MANITOBA WITH REFERENCE
TO THE WESTERN BOUNDARY OF ONTARIO.

(Transcript from the Shorthand Notes of Messrs. Marten and Meredith.)

Counsel for Ontario, Mr. Mowat, Q.C., (Attorney-General for Ontario); the Honorable Mr. Mills, Mr. Haldane and Mr. Scoble, Q.C., counsel for Manitoba; J. A. Miller, Q.C., (Attorney-General for Manitoba), Mr. D. McCarthy, Q.C., of the Canadian Bar.

Mr. Christopher Robinson, Q.C., and Mr. Hugh McMahon, Q.C., watched the case on behalf of the Canadian Government.

Mr. Mowat.—May it please your Lordships. The point which is now before your Lordships in the second question in the special case which is expressed there in these words: “In case the award is held not to settle the boundary in question then what on the evidence is the true boundary between the said Province?” The position which the Province of Ontario has taken with reference to the award will show your Lordships that Ontario was satisfied on the whole with the boundaries which the award provided for her. So far as regards the western boundary of the award assigned as our western boundary, a line drawn from the north-west angle of the Lake of the Woods, northward to English River, so that that according to the award would have been the boundary between the two Provinces.