

this is a new House, and should not consider this matter hurriedly. Now, Sir, this House is in its second Session; the same parties as were here last year are here now. If notice had been given of intention to discuss the question, we would have been ready to pass upon it now, although, for my part, I hold that we should not pass upon the justice of the award at all. The hon. member for Halton (Mr. Macdougall) says that the people of Ontario will be satisfied with a legal and judicial decision. This they have had already, and the people of Ontario have shown their satisfaction with it. It would be a gross breach of faith to attempt to interfere with the award. The hon. gentleman says further that the award should be final and of the highest authority. I suppose there is a way of appealing to the Privy Council, if it is not final. I do not suppose that a Committee of eleven members of this House—of gentlemen who have not been noted for any legal or Constitutional acquaintance with the question of these boundaries—is a higher and final authority—or would give any more authoritative decision than that of the Arbitrators whose award is in question. The people of Ontario will look upon the appointment of this Committee, not as in furtherance of a desire to secure a higher decision, but as being done with a view to break up the award, and to substitute for that the decision of a partisan Committee. If the right hon. gentleman at the head of the Government thinks he could face the country after such a course, we on this side should have some reason to congratulate ourselves on the manner in which he would be received after such conduct by the people of Ontario.

MR. CAMERON (North Victoria) : As a Conservative member for Ontario, I desire to say a few words, in consequence of the tone and line of argument of the hon. gentleman who has just sat down. He has taken upon himself to threaten the Conservative majority of this House, and to dare them to go to the people of Ontario, after the course being now pursued in regard to this boundary question. This, however, is only a reiteration of what we read in the *Globe* of yesterday. We were warned by that mighty organ of the dire consequences, which would follow if we did not confirm this award, and give to Ontario the whole of this disputed

territory. The hon. gentleman, however, who has taken up the language of the *Globe* is too gentle, too amiable, and, may I add, too weak, to adopt the role of threatener and intimidator, and crack the whip over the heads even of such an insignificant body as the Conservatives of Ontario. When we read the article in the *Globe*, we knew a mighty power was talking to us; but, when we listen to the hon. member for West Elgin (Mr. Casey), we know he is too good-natured to mean what he says. But, to discuss the matter seriously, I think, Sir, if there ever was a motion which ought to be adopted, it is the one now before the House. We have before us a question of a most difficult and intricate character, and one which involves matters upon which the majority of the members of this House are entirely ignorant. We have a large tract of territory in dispute; we have an award that has been made on that question, the validity whereof is disputed; the jurisdiction of the Arbitrators who made that award is questioned; and the award itself is of such a peculiar character that it requires the assent of this House before it is binding. It is therefore very reasonable that we should have the matter referred to a Committee, as a more convenient body to consider and ascertain the true facts of the case than the whole House, and so that time could be allowed for members of this House to form an opinion with the report of the Committee before them. The House is adopting the most proper and convenient means of obtaining information to guide it in pronouncing an opinion upon the question. Speaking as a representative from Ontario, I can safely say that Ontario wants nothing but her true boundary. That is the real feeling of the Province of Ontario. Ontario is rich and large enough not to want to steal these few acres of land. If this territory belongs to Ontario, she wants it, but not by any snap judgment of an unauthorised tribunal. It wants a careful and full investigation; it does not want this disputed territory *per fas aut nefas*. The good feeling of our constituents the people of Ontario will prompt them to say: "Let us have it if it belongs to us, but not otherwise. Investigate the question in every way, and we will be content to abide by the result."

MR. HOLTON : I think, Sir, that we