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### CONFIRMATION OF THE AWARD OF THE ARBITRATORS

NORTH-WEST BOUNDARIES OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

SIR,—I am directed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to call the attention of the Government of Canada to my despatch dated 31st December last, respecting the legislation needed to put beyond dispute in civil and criminal cases any question as to the western and northern limits of Ontario.

I am to remind you that a report on the subject, by a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, was approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the 12th November, 1874, and that in this Report it was set forth that, in a memorandum dated on that day, the Premier of the Dominion recommended concurrence in a proposition made by the Government of Ontario, to determine by means of a reference the northern and western boundaries of that Province relatively to the rest of the Dominion ; that the Ontario Government having named the Honourable William Buell Richards, Chief Justice of Ontario, as one of the referees, the Premier submitted the name of the Honourable Samuel Allan Wilmot, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, to act in conjunction with him, and advised that authority should be given them to agree upon a third person, not being a resident of Canada, and that the determination of a majority of such three referees should be final and conclusive upon the limits to be taken as and for such boundaries respectively, and by the Report of the Committee of the Privy Council it was recommended that the Dominion should agree to concurrent action with the Province of Ontario, in obtaining such legislation as might be necessary for giving binding effect to the conclusion which should be arrived at, and for establishing the northern and western boundaries of the Province of Ontario in accordance with the award.

A further Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council was approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the 31st July, 1878, whereby it was stated that the Committee of Council had under consideration the subject of the northern and western boundaries of the Province of Ontario, which under previous