

last twenty years. The hon. member referred to the report of the late Chief Justice Draper on this question. Let me also direct the attention of the House to that report. In 1857, the hon. member who now leads the House was leader of the Government of the old Province of Canada. Questions then arose as to the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company to the vast territory to the west of us, and as to the western boundary of the old Province of Canada; and the late Chief Justice Draper, than whom no abler man could be found to deal with the subject, was selected by the Government of the day to make an exhaustive inquiry into the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company under their charter, and into the subject of the western and northern boundaries of the old Province of Canada. With a zeal and vigor which were always characteristic of that distinguished Judge, he set to work on the duty assigned him. He made a thorough investigation, and what conclusion did he arrive at? The conclusion he arrived at was approved of by the hon. gentleman who leads the Government. And what was that conclusion? The conclusion he arrived at with respect to the claims advanced by the Hudson's Bay Company was that the right to the territory then claimed by the Company was more than problematical. It was extremely doubtful. The conclusion arrived at with respect to the western boundary of Ontario, will be found in the document that the Crown published and such conclusion fully justifies the award. If his conclusion upon that subject is correct, the western boundary of Ontario extends, at all events, westward as is described in the award of the arbitrators. That conclusion has never been repudiated by the Government of the day. It has never been repudiated by the First Minister. It has never been repudiated, so far as I am aware, until lately by any of the followers of the present Government. That is not all. Recollect, Sir, that in the statements I am presenting there is nothing original. There is nothing new; my arguments and statements are the arguments and statements of hon. gentlemen opposite when they considered this question from an impartial and non-political standpoint. If the arguments were right then they have equal force now. If the arguments presented by the right hon. leader of the House, through his colleagues, twenty years ago were correct, they are equally correct now. In 1857, a colleague of the present leader of the House, then Commissioner of Crown Lands was appointed by the Government to make an enquiry similar in character to the enquiry of the late Chief Justice Draper. After having exhausted all the material then at his command, and which was substantially the material and evidence submitted to the various Committees which have dealt with