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in the foregoing report; and instead of mentioning several different methods of settling the laws of that province for the future, with the several advantages and disadvantages that would probably attend each of the proposed methods, and leaving it wholly to his Majesty's wisdom to chuse one of the methods in preference to the others, as is done in the foregoing report, his excellency has thought fit to mention only one method of settling the laws of the province, which he strongly recommends to his Majesty, as the only way of doing justice and giving satisfaction to the Canadians, which is, to continue the laws of England with respect to criminal matters, but to revive the whole body of the French laws that were in use there before the conquest with respect to civil matters. The chief justice, William Hey, Esquire, and attorney general of the province, not thinking it either necessary or expedient to revive the whole body of the French laws in civil matters, but only those parts of them (which indeed are very considerable), which related to the tenure, alienation, dower, and inheritance of landed property, and the distribution of the effects of persons who die intestate, delivered in to the governour two additional papers, or lesser reports, containing their reasons for not wholly agreeing to the report made by his excellency. And these three reports were delivered to Maurice Morgan, Esquire, about the 12th of September 1769, to be by him carried to England, and delivered to his Majesty's secretary of state for America.¹ The additional paper, or lesser report, of the attorney general was intituled his opinion concerning the governour's report, and was as follows.

ATTORNEY GENERAL MASERES' CRITICISM OF GOVERNOR CARLETON'S REPORT ON THE LAWS OF THE PROVINCE²

The Opinion of the Attorney General of the Province of Quebec concerning the Report made by his Excellency Brigadier-General Carleton, the Governour in Chief of the said Province, to his Majesty in Council, concerning The State of the Laws and

¹ The three reports delivered to Morgan were those of Governor Carleton, Chief Justice Hey and Attorney General Maseres. In a communication from John Pownall, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the Clerk of the Council in Waiting, he states that, by Lord Hillsborough's orders, he has transmitted to the Council certain papers sent to His Lordship by the Governor of Quebec, 18th September 1769, pursuant to the Order in Council of Aug. 28th, 1767. These papers were:—

"Report upon the State of the Laws and Courts of Judicature in the Province of Quebec."

"Appendix to said Report."

"Attorney General Maseres' Opinion concerning said Report."

Hillsborough, writing to Carleton on Jan. 18th 1770, reports that Morgan has arrived and delivered the papers which will pave the way for a speedy decision on the state of Quebec. The reports however are not found in connection with any of these despatches. That of Maseres, which follows, is given by himself in his volume of "Commissions" &c.

² Maseres, "A Collection of several Commissions and other Public Instruments, &c." p. 50.