

N U M B E R II.

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,

C O N C E R N I N G

The State of the Laws and the Administration of Justice in the said Province ;

- W I T H -

The Reasons of his Dissent from some of the Matters contained in the said Report.

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Objections to the proposal of reviving the whole body of the French laws relating to civil matters.

YOUR Majesty's attorney general of this province approves that part of the foregoing report which gives an account of the constitution of the government of this province during it's subjection to the French king, and believes the said account to be true in most particulars; but he cannot assent to that part of the said report which suggests to your Majesty the expediency of reviving the whole of the French laws in civil matters, for the following reasons.

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Inconsistency of such a measure with his Majesty's former plan of conduct with respect to the province of Quebec.

In the first place, he thinks it will be a deviation from that plan of conduct which your Majesty has hitherto thought fit to pursue with respect to this province ever since the conquest of it by your Majesty's arms in 1760, which he conceives to have been, to endeavour to introduce the English laws and the English manner of government into it, and thereby to assimilate and associate this province to your Majesty's other colonies in North America, and not to keep it distinct and separate from them in religion, laws, and manners, to all future generations. He conceives that if this latter system had been that which your Majesty had adopted, your Majesty would have given orders to your general, Sir Jeffery Amherst, to whom this province was surrendered, to keep up, from the first moment