A RETURN, showing how far Crimes, for which Capital Punishments have been abolished in this Country, are still Capitally Punishable in the Colonies and Dependencies of Great Britain.—(In continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 738, Sess. 1850.)

DESPATCH FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE NORTH AMERCIAN COLONIES.

— No. 1.—

(No. 238.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin to Earl Grey.

CANADA.

Government House, Toronto, 17 December 1850.

(Received, 7 January 1851.) My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 517, of the 4th September Earl of Elgin to last, I have the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a communication from the Attorney-general of Canada West, to the Provincial Secretary, with a list of the crimes for which capital punishment has been abolished in the mother of the crimes for which capitally punished in this colony. I have at the same country, which are still capitally punishable in this colony. I have at the same time to express my regret, that owing to some irregularity, this information was not supplied at an earlier period.

No. 1. Earl Grey 17 December 1850.

I have, &c.

(signed) Elgin & Kincardine.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Office of the Attorney-General for Upper Canada, Sir, Government House, Toronto, 12 December 1850.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-general, Encl. 1, in No. 2. a list of the crimes for which capital punishment has been abolished in the mother country, which are still capitally punishable in this colony.

I have, &c.

The Honourable James Leslie, Provincial Secretary.

(signed) Robert Baldwin.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

LIST of the CRIMES for which CAPITAL PUNISHMENT has been abolished in the Mother Encl. 2, in No. 1. Country, which are still Capitally Punishable in Canada.

- 1. Piracy, at common law, by 28 Henry 8, c. 15, ss. 2, 3.
- 2. Rape.
- 3. Carnal knowledge of a girl under 10 years of age.
- 4. Embezzlement by officers, &c. of the Post-office, under 5 Geo. 3, c. 25, s. 17, and 7 Geo. 3, c. 50, s. 1. These Acts having been reserved as to offences committed in the North American colonies, in the Repealing Act of 1 Vict., c. 32.