

of St. James's; his Excellency Don Cristobal de Murieta, Knight Grand Cross of the Spanish Order of Charles III.; Count Crivelli, Austrian Minister at the Papal Court; Count Walewski; Baron Stjerneld, a distinguished statesman in Sweden; Baron de Teissier; Baron James de Rotschild; M. Gioecchino Rossini, the celebrated composer; M. Berryer, the celebrated French advocate; the ex-President of America (Mr. Buchanan), &c. — *Weekly Despatch.*

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

— *Colonial Knighthood* — The following is the substance of the Official letter of Dec. 8th 1868, of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to the Rt. Hon. Sir John Young, Governor-General of Canada, on Colonial Honors.

The Queen has had occasion to observe that the constant progress of the British Empire in population, wealth and enterprise, and the unusual opportunities thus happily afforded to Her subjects of rendering effective services to their Sovereign and their Country, have in some respects outgrown Her Majesty's means of recognizing those services in a fitting manner. You are aware that with the object of supplying that deficiency, it was found requisite in the year 1848 to enlarge and modify the ancient Order of the Bath; and more recently that Her Majesty has been pleased to create a new Order of Knighthood—the Star of India—for the reward of services rendered in relation to Her Majesty's Indian Empire. The sphere of usefulness and eminence which is now opened in the British Colonies is so varied and extensive as to render it, in Her Majesty's judgment, advisable that to them as to India a special form of distinction should be appropriated.

For this purpose, Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to sanction such a modification of the States of the Order of St. Michael and St. George originally instituted by King George III, in connection with His Majesty's Mediterranean possessions, and now presided over by a Prince of the Blood Royal, together with such an enlargement of its numbers as will render it available as a reward of distinguished merit or services in any part of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions.

I annex, for publication in the colony under your Government, copies of so much of the new Statutes as prescribes the qualifications for admission into the order and the number of the Knights.

The Queen is confident that this measure will be received by Her subjects as an evidence of the importance which Her Majesty attaches to Her Colonial Dominions as integral parts of the British Empire, of Her constant interest in their progress and of Her desire that services of which they are the scene or the occasion may not pass without adequate and appropriate recognition.

Extract from the Statutes of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, dated the 4th December, 1868.

It is Ordained, that the Most Distinguished Order shall contain Three Classes, as in Our said Letters Patent mentioned, to be styled and designated respectively—

KNIGHTS GRAND CROSS,
KNIGHTS COMMANDERS, and
COMPANIONS.

It is Ordained, that the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross, shall not exceed twentyfive in number.

It is Ordained, that the Second Class, or Knights Commanders, shall not exceed sixty in number.

It is Ordained, that the Third Class, or Companions, shall not exceed one hundred in number.

It is Ordained, that the Persons to be admitted into this Most Distinguished Order, shall be such natural-born Subjects of Our Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as may have held, or shall hereafter hold, High and Confidential Offices within any of Our Colonial Possessions, or such other natural-born Subjects of Our Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as may have held, or shall hereafter hold, High and Confidential Offices, or may render Extraordinary and important Services to Us as Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in relation to any of Our Colonial Possessions, or who may become eminently Distinguished therein by their Talents; Merits, Virtues, Loyalty, or Services, or who now are, or hereafter may be, appointed Officers of this Most Distinguished Order.

— *Premiers of England for a Hundred Years.* — The premiership of Mr. Disraeli appears to have lasted 281 days, having commenced February 25, and terminated December 3, 1868. The tenure of office by other Premiers during the last 100 years has been as follows:—Lord North, 12 years, 34 days, terminating March 3, 1782. The Marquis of Rockingham, 132 days, terminating July 13, 1782. The Earl of Shelburne, 266 days, terminating April 5, 1783. The Duke of Portland, 260 days, terminating December 27, 1783. Mr. Pitt, 17 years 80 days, terminating March 17, 1801. Lord Sidmouth, 3 years 56 days, terminating May 12, 1804. Mr. Pitt, (second time) a year, 246 days, terminating January 8, 1806. Lord Granville, 1 year 64 days, terminating March 13,

1807. The Duke of Portland, (second time) 3 years 102 days, terminating June 28, 1810. Mr. Spencer Percival, 1 year 350 days, terminating June 8, 1812. The Earl of Liverpool, 14 years, 307 days, terminating April 11, 1827. Mr. Canning, 121 days, terminating August 10, 1827. Lord Goderich, 168 days, terminating January 5, 1828. The Duke of Wellington, 2 years 301 days, terminating Nov. 22, 1830. Earl Grey, 3 years 231 days, terminating July 11, 1834. Lord Melbourne, 128 days, terminating November 16, 1834. The Duke of Wellington, second time, 22 days, terminating December 8, 1834. Sir R. Peel, 131 days, terminating April 8, 1835. Lord Melbourne, second time, 6 years 138 days, terminating September 3, 1841. Sir R. Peel, second time, 4 years 97 days, terminating December 10, 1845. Sir R. Peel, third time, 188 days, terminating June 26, 1846. Lord J. Russell, second time, 5 years 239 days, terminating February 22, 1852. The Earl of Derby, 300 days, terminating December 19, 1852. The Earl of Aberdeen, 2 years 45 days, terminating February 5, 1855. Lord Palmerston, 3 years 17 days, terminating February 21, 1858. The Earl of Derby, second time, 1 year 111 days, terminating June 13, 1859. Lord Palmerston, second time, 6 years 128 days, terminating October 20, 1865. Earl Russell, third time, 249 days, terminating June 27, 1866. The Earl of Derby, third time, 1 year 238 days, terminating February 25, 1868; and Mr. Disraeli, 281 days, terminating December 3, 1868.

The list of Mr. George Peabody's public donations now aggregate the enormous sum of over ten million dollars in our money. This sum does not include hundreds of minor gifts that would foot up a large amount. The following list shows how Mr. Peabody has dispensed his benefactions:

To the poor of London.....	\$1,750,000
Baltimore Institute.....	1,000,000
For education in the South to blacks and whites.....	2,000,000
For a museum to preserve American relics, Yale College....	150,000
For a similar museum in Harvard College.....	150,000
For Institute and Education at Danvers.....	250,000
For a free museum at Salem.....	50,000
To the State of Maryland.....	250,000
Bishop McIlvain, for Kenyon College.....	25,000
Kane's Arctic Expedition.....	10,000
For "Memorial Church" to his mother.....	100,000
To members of his family.....	2,000,000
Total.....	\$7,735,000

The above figures represent a gold value, and with the gold premium added, the exact amount in our money will be obtained. But while it is easy to figure up the amount of Mr. Peabody's donations, who will calculate the good they have done? The benefits they have conferred are incalculable. They have caused the name of George Peabody to be revered and venerated wherever the news of his good deeds has gone.

METEOROLOGICAL INTELLIGENCE.

— Meteorological observations at Quebec—Latitude 46°48'30" N; Longitude 71°12'15" W.; height above St. Lawrence, 230 feet; taken during the month of Jan., 1869, By Sergt. J. Thurling, A. H. C., Quebec.

Barometer, highest reading on the 1st.....	30.421 inches.
“ lowest “ 5th.....	22.091
“ range of pressure.....	1.330
“ mean for month reduced to 32°.....	29.653
Thermometer, highest reading on the 9th.....	41.4 degrees.
“ lowest “ 22nd.....	-17.0
“ range in month.....	58.4
Mean of highest.....	23.8
“ lowest.....	9.1
“ daily range.....	14.7
“ for month.....	16.4
Hygrometer, mean of dry bulb.....	16.5
“ wet bulb.....	14.8
“ dew point.....	1.7
Elastic force of vapour.....	.047 inches.
Vapour in a cubic foot of air.....	0.5 grains.
“ required to saturate, do.....	0.6 “
Mean degree of humidity (Sat. 100).....	51
Average weight of a cubic foot of air.....	578.9 grains.
Cloud, mean amount of (0-10).....	7.2
Ozone “ “ “.....	1.0
Wind, general direction.....	North West.
“ mean daily horizontal movement.....	155.5 miles.
Rain, number of days it fell.....	3
Snow, number of days it fell.....	20

— Meteorological Observations taken at Quebec, during the month of February, 1869. By Sergt. J. Thurling, A. H. C., Quebec.

Barometer, highest reading on the 2nd.....	30.287 inches.
“ lowest “ 4th.....	28.887
“ range of pressure.....	1.400
“ mean for month reduced to 32°.....	29.631