

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

It is reported that Lord Rosebery wears collars even more pronounced in expansiveness than those of his predecessor. Mr. Gladstone's collars are limp, and flappy in the face of a breeze, while those of Rosebery are stiff, erect and uncompromising—emblematic perhaps of the will of the wearer—the envy and despair of short-necked dudes, the joy and pride of the slender and swan-like.

At the congress of astronomers, held five years ago in Paris, it was agreed to prepare a photographic map of the heavens, and the work was taken in hand on a comprehensive plan by astronomers of fifteen distinct nationalities. Work is progressing satisfactorily on the scheme, which will include over 32,000 photographs, and when complete will cover the surface of a globe twenty-four feet in diameter.

"SLEEPY old Quebec," as some people are wont to call that Province, is not too far back in the procession of progress in some respects. Last year, Quebec sold 156,925 acres of her Crown lands for \$57,108, besides granting 37,646 acres free to settlers. Ontario during the same period disposed of only 28,135 acres, but she obtained a better price than her sister Province as the amount received for Crown lands was \$26,841.

THE Baconian theory of the authorship of the Shakespeare plays did not die with the adverse verdict of the jury of litterateurs empaneled by the *Arena*. Mr. Ignatius Donnelly, who has done more to sustain the claims of Bacon than any other man, writing from St. Paul to a member of the *Toronto Empire* staff, says: "I know you will be glad to learn that all my leisure time has been given to further studies of the cipher, and that I have reduced it to an absolute arithmetical certainty, moving with the regularity of a piece of mechanism. In the 'Great Cryptogram' I admitted that the workmanship of the cipher was not perfect. I did not have the order in which the words were delivered. During five years of diligent labor I have elaborated this, and when I publish my second book, which I hope to do in a year, I shall place the reality of the cipher and the authorship of the plays beyond controversy."

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

WHEN the compositor "ples" a stickful he usually gets "crusty."

A SURVEYOR up the country has been arrested for incendiarism. He blazed the trees.

LORD Mayor Shanks, of Dublin, is a celebrated horseman. A noted mare of

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his has been in use by the writer over 30 years.

UMBRELLA—Well, you've had quite a comedown.

Rain—Look out for yourself. You are making quite a spread.

JONES—What are you using that eye water for?

Smiths—Got a cataract.

Jones—Then I shouldn't think you would need any more water.

EYESIGHT—HOW TO PRESERVE IT.—

Everyday you hear some one say that his eyes are bad—he can't see as well as you can at a distance, or he can't read unless he holds his paper at arm's length from him. You ask him, why don't he get glasses? He answers: "If I start to wear glasses I will always have to! Such people do not realize the fact that their eyesight is always getting worse, which they could prevent with proper glasses. They would rather worry their eyes and wince than wear glasses which would do away with all the trouble. To do without glasses as long as possible is wrong. You should wear them as soon as your eyes feel strained or tired. Of course, it is very important that your glasses should be the proper ones to secure comfort and ease. Such glasses can only be obtained from a skilled optician, and the only place where such can be had is at F. W. Nolte & Co.'s, 37 Fort street.

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