

LITERARY SMALL-TALK.

—The fifty largest libraries of Germany possess 12,700,000 volumes, against those of England with about 6,450,000, and of North America with about 6,100,000 volumes.

—Orders for over 9,000 copies of the authorized cheap edition in two volumes of Professor Bryce's "American Commonwealth" were received by the Macmillans before the day of publication. Over 26,000 copies of the first six-dollar edition were sold.

—The editor of one of the leading magazines says in *Current Literature*: "We print twelve numbers in each year. In each number we print on an average say twelve or fifteen articles. Suppose we say that in the course of a year we print 100 articles or so. Now, how many manuscripts do you suppose are offered to us in the course of a year? Something over 4,000. If we chose to make up the entire magazine from year's beginning to year's end out of the voluntary contributions, we should still perforce have to reject about 3,800 or 3,900 articles."

—"Edward Eggleston, the author," says *Harper's Weekly*, "resides away up in northwestern Vermont, in the midst of the primeval woodland, and far removed from any railway, in a rambling old homestead rejoicing in the quaint designation of 'Owl's Nest.' His versatility is as amazing as his energy is unbounded. He has been a preacher, a poet, a journalist, a novelist, and is now a historian. For several years past new tales from Mr. Eggleston have been as scarce as angels' visits, the reason being that the popular novelist, in a heroic moment, set aside the better portion of a decade in order to write a History of Life in the Thirteen Colonies."