



[3]

in the collection. The knowing the utter impossibility of making estimates of the cost of repairing large ~~large~~ numbers of bindings, have invariably declined making the attempt.

It may be thought that there were some books rebound, that did not require to be so treated. This is largely a matter of opinion and taste. whilst we had no desire to do any thing more than what was needed, to put the bindings in good condition, it may be that knowing the position that the books would occupy in the building where they now find a resting place, and where they will be seen by all who enter the building, that we have erred in the judgment of some, but if we have done so, it is solely on the side of appearance and the preservation of the books. There has been no costly binding placed upon any volume deserving as some of the gems of the collection are of richer casquets. We endeavoured to combine the elements of durability, neatness and economy