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Memoirs of Libraries

Including a Handbook of Library Economy

Volume 1

EDWARD EDWARDS





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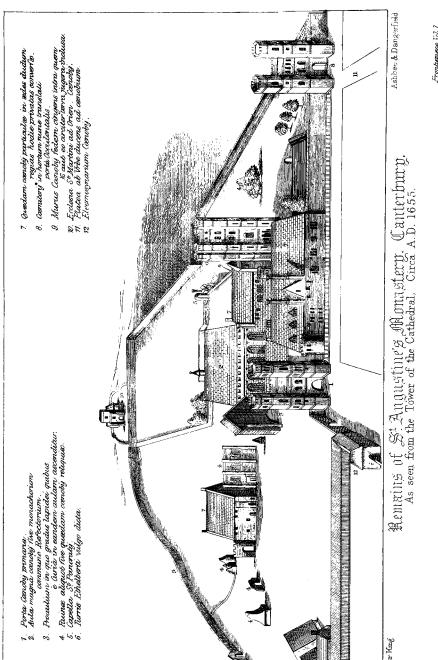


MEMOIRS

OF

LIBRARIES







MEMOIRS OF LIBRARIES:

INCLUDING

A HANDBOOK

OF

LIBRARY ECONOMY.

BY

EDWARD EDWARDS.

VOLUME I.

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PREFACE.

For the defects of the book now submitted to the Subscribers and to the Public, the Writer alone is responsible. Such merits as it may be thought to have belong, in a large measure, to the Friends and Correspondents, at home and abroad, who have generously contributed much of the information on which it is based.

But a long list of names, set out in a Preface, might seem to partake as much of ostentation as of gratitude. I have preferred to acknowledge my obligations in footnotes, at the various sections of the work to which they more specifically relate. If omissions have occurred, they were unintentional, and will be regretted.

Whilst the book has been in preparation, many portions of its subject-matter have been in rapid growth. I have striven to keep pace, to the best of my ability, with new information; but, unavoidably, some sections are brought down to a later date than others. The endeavour has entailed on the Printer an additional amount of exertion, which has been so kindly and efficiently put forth as to merit my hearty acknowledgements. The Reader may, perhaps, notice



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PREFACE.

with some surprise that a book almost wholly written, and entirely revised, in England, has been printed in Saxony; but assuredly he will not find that its typography has suffered, by being entrusted to a House of European renown in that department.

These volumes, it will be seen, have considerably exceeded the extent named in the 'Prospectus', and within which I had hoped to have restricted them. It has been necessary, therefore, to omit, for the present, the Statistical Tables that were intended to form the concluding division.

Old Trafford, near Manchester, 6 November, 1858.



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