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## Three essays: I. Book-buying, II. book-binding, III. the office of literature

*Augustine Birrell*

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have made precisely such a combination as his. Had he been in any single respect different from what he is, his library, as it exists, never would have existed. Therefore, surely he may exclaim, as in the gloaming he contemplates the backs of his loved ones, "They are mine, and I am theirs."-----Augustine Birrell