Advent of Case Construction
Cloth Covered Bookbinding in the United States

bindings as evidence of changing methods

gary-frost@uiowa.edu
typical cloth covered bindings

J.&J. Harper
1829-1834
characteristics of laced construction
characteristics of cased binding
early spine stamping

Harper & Brothers
1835 - 1836
18th c. German case binding
work station laced construction
work stations for case construction
recording cards and tabulation
Advent of Case Construction

• It is a mystery that we convey conceptual works via physical objects such as books. But that mystery hides another; that there is little correlation between the activities of making that object and the concepts conveyed.