It is still to be regretted that the collection is exposed to great risk from fire.

Owing to the large number of recent accessions, a thorough re-arrangement of our material is now an absolute necessity—numbers should be painted on the specimens, and a complete catalogue should be prepared. This work, begun some years ago, would have been kept up but for the reason that the curator was desirous of becoming acquainted with the methods of classification adopted in large museums, before he expended many months of time and labor in doing what might require to be undone in the light of information gained from the experience of older institutions of this kind. Another reason for delay was based on the hope that before long more permanent and commodious quarters would be found for the museum, and that the handling incident to removal would also have served for re-arrangement.

> I have the honor to be, Yours respectfully,

> > DAVID BOYLE.

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