

To effect so desirable an object, and which can be easily and economically attained, the counter-sealing of the floor, and double sashes to the windows appear to be essentially necessary, and are earnestly recommended.

There is another subject which it would appear to be my duty to present for the consideration of the legislature, through your committee, and that is, the liability of accident from fire to the State House; arising from the fact of the cellar, immediately under the library, in which the furnace is located, being occupied as a wood cellar.

I might perhaps be deemed culpably negligent in case of any such accident occurring, were I not to take some notice of this matter in my official capacity.

The recent destruction of public buildings and their invaluable contents at Washington, should in my humble judgment warn the legislature of the expediency of shielding this building and the public records and documents kept therein from such disasters, which I would respectfully suggest would be more effectually done by the erection of a suitable wood house, to which might be removed from its present location, the wood now contained under the library.

The importance of this suggestion I trust will be a sufficient apology for my making it, if indeed, an apology be necessary, and at least shield me from the imputation of officiously stepping beyond my duty.

All which is respectfully submitted.

D. RIDGELY, Librarian.