

This catalogue is arranged as follows:

The general classification is biologic and follows the broadest subdivisions. Each entry represents a single specimen and is accompanied by two numbers, the first serial, the second fractional and corresponding to the number borne by the specimen. In this fractional number the numerator carries the number assigned to the major division, the genus and the species, while the denominator indicates the number of the specimen of the species. Thus, the sponge *Dictyospongia sceptrum* Hall (sp.) carries the number $\frac{2264}{2}$. 2000 is the number assigned to the Spongiae, 2260 that assigned to the genus *Dictyospongia*, 2264 the number for *D. sceptrum*, the fourth species of that genus, and $\frac{2264}{2}$ the number for the second specimen of this species. In the scheme of numbering the following is the allotment made for the major biologic divisions.

Plantae	100	Lamellibranchiata	9 000
Protozoa	1 000	Gastropoda	10 000
Spongiae	2 000	Pteropoda	11 000
Cnidaria	3 000	Cephalopoda	12 000
Echinodermata	4 000	Crustacea	{ 13 000
Vermes	5 000		
Bryozoa	6 000	Tracheata	15 000
Brachiopoda	{ 7 000	Pisces	16 000
	8 000		

For ease of use it has been the purpose to keep these divisions as broad as practicable, in order to avoid duplicating too often the alphabetic arrangement of the species and to maintain the elasticity of the scheme in the incorporation of future additions. The work does not purport to be one on taxonomy, but aims to present the arrangement in the simplest form. During the progress of the printing of the catalogue, a period of 18 months, the continuous publication of paleontologic researches and acquisitions to the collections by gift and purchase have notably increased the number of type specimens and these have been added in a supplementary list brought up to February 1903.