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## **USNM Curators Annual Reports: Department of Mollusks, 1882**

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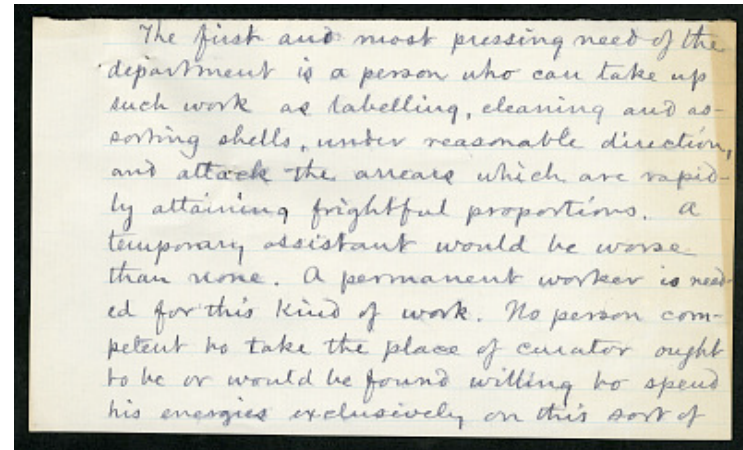
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The first and most pressing need of the department is a person who can take up such work as labelling, cleaning and assorting shells, under reasonable direction, and attack the arrears which are rapidly attaining frightful proportions. A temporary assistant would be worse than none. A permanent worker is needed for this kind of work. No person competent to take the place of curator ought to be or would be found willing to spend his energies exclusively on this sort of

A photograph of a handwritten manuscript snippet on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in a cursive script, matching the typed transcription on the left. The paper is slightly wrinkled and has some minor staining. The text is a single paragraph discussing the need for a permanent worker in a department, mentioning tasks like labelling and cleaning shells, and the growing backlog of work. The handwriting is fluid and legible, though some words are slightly faded or written in a way that might be misread without the transcription. The paper is set against a dark background.

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