that there are not an infinity of important physical properties; in fact there are very few. And in the second place it is evident, both from centuries of experience in physical science and from the postulates above adopted regarding life, which undoubtedly do in the main describe its physico-chemical characteristics, that very few properties indeed are of importance in the least comparable with those which I have mentioned.

Finally, it is in the highest degree probable that we are acquainted with most of the truly essential physical properties, and know them as biologically important, when they are so; and I think we shall find it possible to consider them all, and thus to make the argument complete.

Meanwhile it should be noted that there are two different ways of illustrating the fitness of a physical property. Properly employed, both are free from fallacy, and it will be desirable for us to employ both. Thus it may be shown, as in the case of the temperature of the ocean, that a particular property of water, its high specific heat, automatically produces a maximum of something which is favorable to life. Or again, as in the case of the regulation of the temperature of the human body by the process of perspiration, it may be shown that a particular property of water, its high