

conditions might be otherwise in beings of a very different kind, but to-day every chemist well knows that if he is to control a chemical process, almost the first desideratum is rigid regulation of the temperature at which the process takes place.<sup>1</sup>

It is therefore incontestable that the unusually high specific heat of water tends automatically and in most marked degree to regulate the temperature of the whole environment, of both air and water, land and sea, and that of the living organism itself. Likewise the same property favors the circulation of water by facilitating the production of winds, besides contributing to the formation of ocean currents. Here is a striking instance of natural fitness, which in like degree is unattainable with any other substance except ammonia.

to produce alterations in many of the complex substances that are involved in the phenomena of immunity and other similar things.

<sup>1</sup> Almost the most conspicuous change in the equipment of modern chemical laboratories, as a result of the growth of physical chemistry, is the introduction everywhere of thermostats.

DAVY  
COLLEGE