

TEMPERATURE Degrees	VAPOR TENSION Millimeters
0	4.58
10	9.18
20	17.41
30	31.55
40	54.97
50	92.17
80	355.47
90	526.00
100	760.00

These variations are what make possible both the evaporation of water and its precipitation as rain and as dew in the meteorological cycle. And therefore the high latent heat of vaporization of water is in still another manner a most favorable circumstance in its effect upon the organisms.

To sum up, this property appears to possess a threefold importance. First, it operates powerfully to equalize and to moderate the temperature of the earth; secondly, it makes possible very effective regulation of the temperature of the living organism; and thirdly, it favors the meteorological cycle. All of these effects are true maxima, for no other substance can in this respect compare with water.¹

¹ This conclusion may be contrasted with that of Whewell (*Bridgewater Treatise*, p. 142). He includes the expansion of water by heat, the expansion of water by cold below 40°, the expansion of water in freezing, the latent heats of melting and