

attaches to the regulation of the conditions of a chemical process. The only way to gain an idea of this is to examine a work on physical chemistry. Certainly, however, nothing has lately arisen more essential to biology than the understanding of the influence of temperature, pressure, reaction, concentration, ionization, etc., upon all physico-chemical structures and changes, whether inorganic or vital.

Thus the fitness of the ocean appears as an embodiment of the physical fitnesses of water and carbonic acid, resulting directly and inevitably from these and other natural phenomena, and providing a lodgment for life and a medium for its earlier development upon the earth. No philosopher's or poet's fancy, no myth of a primitive people has ever exaggerated the importance, the usefulness, and above all the marvelous beneficence of the ocean for the community of living things.