

A. He made a great many examinations in that way for several years.

Q. What did Dr. Beaumont discover from alcohol in that way?

A. He discovered that it irritated and inflamed the stomach and retarded digestion.

Q. What is irritation?

A. It is an excited condition with increased heat and redness, together with unnatural distension of the blood vessels of the part affected.

Q. Is that an indication of the danger of inflammation?

A. It is.

Q. What is digestion?

A. It is the dissolving of food in the stomach and preparing it to nourish the body.

Q. What is necessary in order that food may be digested?

A. Food cannot digest without pepsine, which is contained in the gastric juice of the stomach.

Q. When alcohol in any form is mingled with the food, what happens?

A. The greater part of the pepsine is separated, the gastric juice is impaired and cannot act as well as in the natural state.

Q. When digestion is retarded in that way, how and when does it resume its natural state?

A. Not until the alcohol leaves the stomach.