

these experiments and inquiries, I believe I have been guided by its light. Facts are more persuasive than arguments, however ingeniously made, and by their eloquence I hope I have been able to plead for the support and maintenance of those doctrines which have had for their advocates such men as Sydenham, Hunter, Spallanzani, Richerand, Abernethy, Broussais, Philip, Paris, Bostock, the Heidelberg and Paris professors, Dunglison, and a host of other luminaries in the science of physiology."

In reality Beaumont anticipated some of the most recent studies in the physiology of digestion. Doubtless many of you have heard of Professor Pawlow's, of St. Petersburg, new work on the subject. It has been translated into German, and I see that an English edition is advertised. He has studied the gastric juice in an isolated pouch, ingeniously made at the fundus of the stomach of the dog, from which the juice could be obtained in a pure state. One of his results is the very first announced by Beaumont and confirmed by scores of observations on St. Martin, viz., that, as he says, "the gastric juice never appears to be accumulated in the cavity of the stomach while fasting." Pawlow has shown very clearly that there is a relation between the amount of food taken and the amount of gastric juice secreted. Beaumont came to the same conclusion: "when aliment is received the juice is given in exact proportion to its requirements for solution." A third point on which Pawlow lays stress is the curve of secretion of the gastric juice, the manner in which it is poured out during digestion. The greatest secretion, he has shown, takes place in the earlier hours. On this point hear Beaumont: "It (the gastric juice) then begins to exude from the proper vessels and increases in proportion to the quantity of aliment naturally required and received." And again: "When a due and moderate supply of food has been received it is probable that the whole quantity of gastric juice for its complete solution is secreted and mixed with it in a short time." A fourth point, worked out beautifully by Pawlow, is the adaptation of the juice to the nature of the food, on which I do not see any reference by Beaumont, but there are no experiments more full than those in which he deals with the influence of exercise, weather and the emotions on the quantity of the juice secreted."