

they be devoid of sufficient importance. I should like to have
Submitted to chemical analysis & to be kept in mind of them
~~the~~ results. I have just obtained the last no of
the Am: Med: & Phys: Journ. I have not yet fully perused. The
main of your ^{most valuable} Psychological work - though the reviewer
handles the subjects generally with gloved fingers, he seems
inclined to pinch a little on some points, particularly that
Stomach digestion is - and thought ^{your} suggestion allowable
^{by you} ~~one~~ ^{of your} ~~book~~ on that subject needs nothing but their own
conclusions, to ^{affirmatively support them} ~~passage~~ ^{yet} ~~in~~ ~~conclusion~~. I think with your
assistance I shall be able to afford you the weapons
not only to parry their criticisms, but to make them
recoil with severity, if you choose, upon the authors
that ~~think~~ ^{think} the Philadelphia Physiologists, on the subject
of digestion & the Gastric juice, are radically wrong. I have
not ^{only} ~~only~~ ^{not} ~~the~~ ^{least} ~~scruple~~, but demonstrated & multiplied facts &
experiments to prove - of which more hereafter -
In an ^{answer} ~~answer~~ to your ^{past} ~~suggestion~~. I took a quantity of fresh sweet
Soliva, & dilute Murexite and reduced with water, as nearly as I
could judge, to ~~the~~ by the same of taste, to the natural acid flavor
of the Gastric juice, & submitted to it a proportional qty of the
following vegetable substances - an entire square piece, 10 grs. of boiled
parsnip & the same of boiled carrot, - & also ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~time~~, immersed
the same qty of slender of vegetables, in a q of Soliva ^{acid} ^{and} ^{diluted}
to about the same strength & flavor with the murexite. - ^{proved}
They were ^{my} ~~both~~ ^{other} ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~bath~~, of 100° Fahr. for 48 hrs when took
out & weighed the respective juices - the carrot in ^{the} ^{quantity} ^{murexite} ^{remained}
had lost nothing, but remained whole & entire. - The parsnip, had lost 2 grs
- in the entire murexite, both parsnip remained the same - ^{after} ~~the~~ ~~boiling~~
fluids of both remained unaltered in their essential qualities & appeared
^{unimpaired} ~~them~~
I ~~think~~ ^{think} ~~affirmatively~~ ~~disputing~~ agents, for the "systematic obstruency" of
their selfish minds, & Pseudo Physiological theories on this
Subject -

after continuing them on the bath with frequent agitation. ~~the~~ ^{the} longer
the Parsnip ^{in the magnetic sun-drum} had lost 4 grs. whether dissolved or its very soft &
tender substance merely diffused. ^{was this fluid} I was not able to determine. The carrot
remained the same as when put in - The Parsnip in water next to
had lost 6 grs. the carrot 4 - but appeared now to be marinated & softened
than dissolved, or digested - I now mixed these all together, & continued
to treat them on the bath 24 hrs longer, at the end of which ~~the~~ the
whole remaining mass of vegetables weighed together 12 grs. ^{only}.
having lost one half in that time - the fluid appeared now, more
chymous, was rather turbid & resembled more than any thing else
I can compare it to, the famed "Philadelphia vegetable soup"
made of "two potatoes & an onion boiled to smash in a
of water" - I send you the product as it is. please examine
for yourself, & if you choose, let me know your conclusions,
upon this ^{or other} subjects submitted - observing that after
the mixture the wash of the vegetables became more evanescent
& rapid. I succeeded to mix the two acids together
first, & then shown their effect on meat - accordingly I
mixed equal parts of the diluted acids, & Soliva. ^{into 320 of} ^{undissolved but}
this mixture add immersed. 24 grs lean broiled beef ^{chopped}
fine with a knife. ~~at 320~~ & for comparison, put
the same qty of kind of meat into 320. Gastric juice of land
then on the bath, ^{together} for 24 hours - when the meat in
the gastric juice taken out & filtered dry, weighed, 2 grs only, that in
the ^{acid} ^{mixture} was not diminished in weight at all, but
had lost its fibrous form & became a jelly-like mass, thick
& tremulous, like half dissolved glue - not converted into any
thing like chyme, nor bore ^{much} resemblance to the contents of
the gastric portion solution - after digesting 8 hrs longer on the
bath, the meat in the gastric juice completely dissolved & that in the acid mixture
nearly so, a trace of jelly-like particles only remaining on the filter - the fluid
now was a little more similar, though not alike - that of the gastric juice
was opaque, of a light brown colour & afforded a dark brownish sedi-
ment on standing - the other was also opaque, of a dark reddish
grey colour, depositing no sediment on standing - 3ij Saff of galls
added to the gastric portion, threw down a fine coarse reddish brown
precipitate & afforded a semi-transparent liquor, of similar colour

34 of the Infⁿ added to the ant mixture. committed ch whole
into a mass of loose ^{into} ~~fluid~~ ^{coagulum} held ⁱⁿ suspended throughout
the whole fluid, becoming finer by agitation & very slowly sub-
siding towards the bottom ^{after} ^{drinking} ^{is} ^{not} a clear transparent
slightly yellowish fluid - I send them also for examination

I would send more small experiments, but perhaps
they would not be of sufficient importance to excite
your interest & attention or merit your attention -

The Gastric juice shall be forth coming as soon as possible
to collect it in gts & lbs, sufficient for you peruse. -

I shall hasten the publication of my experiments as
fast as ^{circumstances} my abilities will permit, consistently with a view
to future benefit to Science & credit to my self - shall
be always happy to consult your judgment relative to
it - and ^{be ever} ^{your obedient} ^{servant} ^{for} ^{such} ^{assurances} ^{of} ^{your} ^{kind} ^{advice} ^{on} ^{the} ^{subject} - shall duly consider your suggestion
of making the ^{Dr. King's} ^{Law} ^{of} ^{Medicines} [&] ^{decrees} ^{the} ^{medium} ^{of}
any prohibitions. I expect ^{soon} ^{to} ^{make} ^{an} ^{abstract}
report of some of my ^{most} ^{valuable} ^{experiments} ^{up} ^{to} ^{the}
Sup^r ^{of} ^{the} ^{university} ⁱⁿ ^{order} ^{to} ^{obtain} ^a ^{degree} ⁱⁿ ^{Medicine} ^{for} ^{other} ^{or}
future arrangements. which to my limited abilities seems
an herculean labour - I shall attend to the experiments
suggested in your last, in due time & communicate the
result of my observations - I shall always feel gratified
& grateful for any communications ^{or} ^{suggestions} you
may be pleased to make on this or any other subject.

Please accept, Sir, the renewed assurances
of my ^{very} ^{great} respect & esteem & believe my
Yrs. truly & respectfully

W. B. Bevan

Professor of Medicine

Please send the abstract when possible back of the University of Edinburgh