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**Tetanzation.** When a muscle is stimulated at progressively greater frequencies, a frequency is finally reached at which the successive contractions fuse together and cannot be distinguished one from the other. This state is called tetanzation.

Tetanzation results partly from the viscous properties of the muscle and partly from the fact that the successive pulsatile states of activation of the muscle fiber fuse into a long continual state of activation. Once the critical frequency for tetanzation is reached, further increase in rate of stimulation increases the force of contraction only a few more per cent, as shown in Figure 9-12.

