

ripen, what takes place? If the seed or a grain of wheat is dried so much that all the superfluous moisture goes out, then the protoplasm goes to rest, but when the moisture is restored the protoplasm is aroused and activity begins again. The protoplasm is in every cell and its activity depends upon moisture and upon certain temperature, a certain heat, the lower the temperature the less active the protoplasm, if you keep the temperature near freezing, for example, the protoplasm will not move or only move, so slightly that little change will take place. Roots and fruits can be kept over all winter and summer too till the following winter, if, by lowness of temperature, the protoplasm is kept at rest. If you freeze the apple then you destroy the protoplasm, it will bear a little frost under certain circumstances, but if the temperature is kept low you stay its action. In preserving fruit and grains it is done by what? By drying. Why do they not decay when dried? Because the protoplasm is dried up, it is not active, wet a dried apple and the protoplasm becomes active and must cause either growth or decay. I have only begun to enter upon the subject. If I had plenty of time I would like to have said a great deal more, but at this late hour it would not be possible to treat this great subject in an adequate manner. In conclusion he called upon the young men present to take advantage of science so far as it is applied to agriculture; and then resumed his seat amid applause.

A vote of thanks having been given to Professor Lawson and suitably acknowledged, the meeting dispersed, having first sang "God save the Queen."