

employed. The repulsion of such forms is here the only safe test for an evolution of oxygen.

There is no *à priori* reason, why the chloroplastids, in a cell the cytoplasm of which had been killed, might not, especially, bearing in mind the now definitely proved fact, that isolated chloroplastids may continue for a short time to assimilate, also for a time continue, if exposed to light, to evolve oxygen. In deed, at one time, it seemed as if certain observations, that Pringsheim and myself had made, pointed to this conclusion. The completed investigation shewed, however, (see p. 415. A¹. p. 145. A³) that whilst an evolution of oxygen might continue in certain cases to take place from a chlorophyllous cell for a short time after its death had occurred, such evolution was, so far as my own observations went, independent of light and, therefore, not a product of a process of CO₂-assimilation. The cases given by Kny may possibly be examples of the continuance of CO₂-assimilation by the chloroplastids, for a short time after the death of the cytoplasm. As shewn above, there is no *à priori* reason why such should not take place. No results however obtained by means of the *Bacterium* method can be considered as satisfactory unless pure cultures are worked with, adequately closed cell preparations are employed, and full attention is paid to the various special precautions which the researches of Engelmann and myself have shewn to be necessary. Otherwise the use of the *Bacterium* method is more likely to retard than accelerate scientific progress in this direction, namely in elucidating problems connected with CO₂-assimilation.

References.

- A¹. = On Assimilatory Inhibition in Plants. Journal of the Linnean Society. Botany. Vol. XXXI. To 461. 1895. p. 364.
 A². = Do. Vol. XXI. To 576. 1896. p. 554.
 A³. = On the Evolution of Oxygen from Coloured *Bacteria*. Journal of the Linnean Society. Botany. Vol. XXXIII. To 155. 1897. p. 123.
 A⁴. = The Effects of Tropical Insolation. Annals of Botany. Vol. XI. No. XLIII. To. 480. p. 439. Sep 1897.
 B³. = On the Power of withstanding Dessication in Plants. Transaction L'Pool. Biological Society. Vol. XI. To. 159. 1897. p. 151.

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