

*princeps*, preserving the same gravity at the christening as if she had been naming a gorilla or a human animal, so impartial is science. We continue to gaze at our Amœba, and presently a little filament is extended like an arm, and perhaps immediately withdrawn. Soon a similar arm stretches forth in another position, and then another. Perhaps half a dozen arms extend themselves at once from dif-

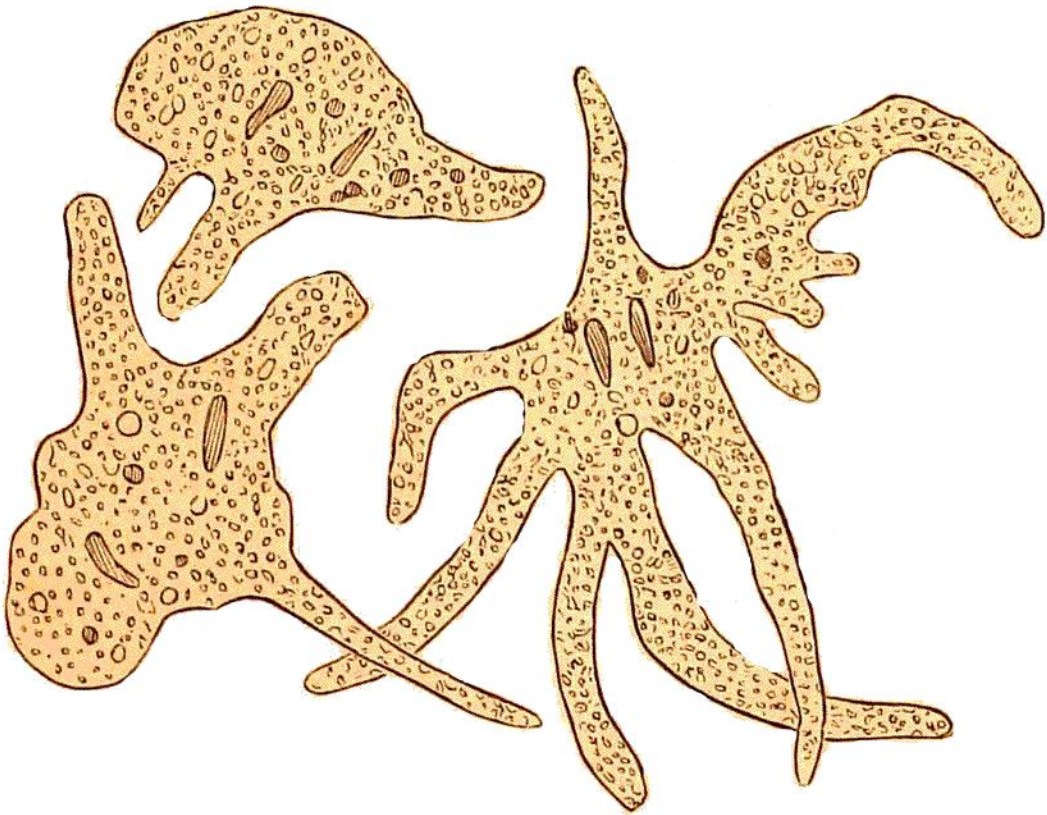


Fig. 18. Amœba Princeps, in different forms.

ferent sides, some long, some short, some thick, some thin. They shorten themselves, or entirely disappear, according to some inexplicable caprice. Now we discover the object of their movements. They are feeling for food; the Amœba is in search of his breakfast. As soon as a nutritive particle is touched, it is seized by one of these arms and introduced into the—mouth, do you say? No, indeed; the animal has no mouth. The food, however, gets inside by some means, and you may behold it there. It lies imbedded in the midst of the little lump of jelly. There is