

plasson or plasma, of the producing organism is transmitted to the produced organism, but that the special form of the molecular motion which is connected with its physical, chemical nature, is also transmitted. In agreement with our modern histology and histogeny, I assume that the *plasma* only (either the karyo-plasm of the cell-kernel or the cyto-plasm of the cell-substance) is the original bearer of all the active movements of life, hence also of inheritance and propagation. This plasma or plasson, in the case of all plastidules (both the non-kernelled cytods as well as the genuine kernelled cells), is composed of *plastidules* or molecules of plasma; and these are "probably always surrounded by watery coverings; the greater or lesser amount of water—which both separates and connects the neighbouring plastidules—is dependent upon the softer or firmer condition of the plasson" (*l.c.*, p. 8). "Inheritance is the transmission of plastidule motion; adaptation, on the other hand, its variation" (p. 55). The movement may be imagined in the form of the branchings of a wave-movement. In the case of all *Protista*, or one-celled organisms (protophyta and protozoa), this periodical mass-movement proceeds in a comparatively simple form, whereas in all *Histones*, or many-celled organisms (metaphyta and metazoa), it is connected with the alternate generation of the plastids and division of labour of the plastidules. I gave an explanation of this as early as 1866, in the seventeenth chapter of my "General Morphology," as *Strophogenesis*, or series of generations.

The *monistic conception of nature* may all the more readily accept my theory of Perigenesis as the basis of a mechanical theory of inheritance, as I likewise consider the plastidules as molecules with souls (similar to the "monads")