

“cell” ; that these cells possess the power of uniting with or assimilating other cells, or fragments of cells, as they drift by and come into contact with them ; and that they absorb into their own substance such portions as may be suitable, while the insufficiently elaborated portions—the grains of inorganic or over-simple material—are presently extruded. They thus begin the act of “feeding.”

Another remarkable property also can be observed ; for a cell which thus grows by feeding need not remain as one individual, but may split into two, or into more than two, which may cohere for a time, but will ultimately separate and continue existence on their own account. Thus begins the act of “reproduction.”

But a still more remarkable property can be observed in some of the cells, though not in all ; they can not only assimilate a fragment of matter which comes into contact with them, but they can sense it, apparently, while not yet in contact, and can protrude