

*ration* (Generatio Spontanea, Archigonia), or to an act of Parental Generation or *Propagation* (Generatio Parentalis, Tocogonia). In a future chapter we shall have to consider Spontaneous Generation, or Archigony, by which only organisms of the most simple kind, the monera, can be produced. At present we must occupy ourselves with Propagation, or Tocogony, a closer examination of which is of the utmost importance for understanding transmission by inheritance. Most of my readers probably only know the phenomena of Propagation which are seen universally in the higher plants and animals, the processes of Sexual Propagation, or Amphigony. The processes of Non-sexual Propagation, or Monogony, are much less generally known. The latter, however, are far more suited to throw light upon the nature of transmission by inheritance in connection with propagation.

For this reason, we shall first consider only the phenomena of *non-sexual* or *monogonic propagation* (Monogonia). This appears in a variety of different forms, as for example, self-division, formation of buds, the formation of germ-cells or spores. It will be most instructive, first, to examine the propagation of the simplest organisms known to us, which we shall have to return to later, when considering the question of spontaneous generation. These very simplest of all organisms yet known, and which, at the same time, are the simplest imaginable organisms, are the *Monera* living in water; they are very small living corpuscles, which, strictly speaking, do not at all deserve the name of organism. For the designation "organism," applied to living creatures, rests upon the idea that every living natural body is composed of organs, of various parts, which fit into one another