

Naked cells, with kernels, like those represented in Fig. 10 *B*, which are continuously changing, stretching out and drawing in formless, finger-like processes, and which are on this account called amœboid, are found frequently and widely dispersed in fresh water and in the sea; nay, are even found creeping on land. They take their food in the same way as was previously described in the case of the *Protamœba* (vol. i. p. 186). Their propagation by division can sometimes be observed (Fig. 10 *C, D*.) I have described the processes in an earlier chapter (vol. i. p. 187). Many of these formless Amœbæ have lately been recognized as the early stages of development of other Protista (especially the Myxomycetæ), or as the freed cells of lower animals and plants. The colourless blood-cells of animals, for example, those of human blood, cannot be distinguished from Amœbæ. They, like the latter, can receive solid corpuscles into their interior, as I was the first to show by feeding them with finely divided colouring matters (Gen. Morph. i. 271). However, other Amœbæ (like the one given in Fig. 10) seem to be independent "good species," since they propagate themselves unchanged throughout many generations. Besides the real, or *naked*, Amœbæ (*Gymnamœbæ*), we also find widely diffused in fresh water *case-bearing* Amœbæ (*Lep-amœbæ*), whose naked plasma body is *partially* protected by a more or less solid shell (*Arcella*), sometimes even by a case (*Diffugia*) composed of small stones. Lastly, we frequently find in the body of many lower animals parasitic Amœbæ (*Gregarinæ*), which, adapting themselves to a parasitic life, have surrounded their plasma-body with a delicate closed membrane.

The simple naked Amœbæ are, next to the Monera, the