THE NEW CYTOLOGY

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Cytology, if its full significance is given to this term, is the science concerned with cells and tissues, their functions as well as their structure. Such was the conception of Schwann. He considered the living organism as dependent on both metabolic and plastic activities of the cells. But his followers ignored this point of view. They contented themselves with the study of the form, and overlooked that of the function. On account of this fundamental error, the work done for nearly a century by a host of cytologists and histologists has ended in an incomplete science of the cells and the tissues. This science does not show how such cells and tissues are building up organized beings. It is also unable to give an explanation for the most common pathological phenomena, such as the electrification of a wound or the growth of a tumor.

1 From the laboratories of The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.