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is, I believe I am correct in stating, one of practical knowledge rather than of scientific conception. This knowledge again is mainly based on personal observations of such common forms as moulds, which are met with in all places and of probably some of the more prominent symptoms noticeable on vegetation, resulting from the attacks of parasitic fungi, than by the actual study of these forms. Of these latter the rust and smut fungi, no doubt, are the best known forms.

Many of the microscopic forms of fungi which we may find on dead plants and parts of plants, have appeared considerably like moulds on clothing, wallpaper, bread, etc.—i.e., they have not been responsible for the death of the plant. These fungi have been designated as saprophytes and are by their mode of life distinguished from parasitic fungi which are capable not only of attacking living plant tissues, but also of maintaining themselves from the food manufactured by the attacked plant for its own use, which partnership frequently results in serious injury or death of the host plant.

Microscopic fungi as the name indicates are extremely minute organisms whose study necessitates a more or less powerful microscope. Indeed, we will find that notwithstanding the minuteness of these objects, some are of a decidedly complicated structure. The use of a microscope will readily reval a vegetative and a generative portion in each of these individuals.

The vegetative part of fungi is analogous in a certain degree to the roots, stem, branches and leaves of higher organized plants inasmuch at any rate as the vegetative parts of a fungus are responsible for the taking up of food required for its own use. The vegetative portions of fungi consist of verv fine, branched, more or less long, transparent or coloured tubes, which may be likened to a human hair or fine capillary glass tubes. These tubes are technically known as vegetative hyphae. They are exceedingly small, measuring often less than a two-thousandth part of an inch in breadth, while their length may vary from a twenty-fifth of an inch to large dense masses covering whole parts of plants. The contents of these tubes consist of protoplasm which is in many cases partitioned off by means of small separating walls or septa. The hyphae may develop within the tissues of plants or cover their surface; collectively they are spoken of as the mycelium.

As soon as the vegetative part of a fungus has had time to undergo a certain development or growth, the generative portion is produced. This consists of the reproductive organs or fructification which may be of very diverse construction, but which like the seeds in flowering plants, serves the purpose of reproduc-

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