that of children licking their slates for the purpose of cleaning them, and he states that a more effective way of diffusing the infection could hardly be designed.

Pharyngitis Herpetica Associated with Menstruation.—DR. LEWIS S. SOMERS reports (*Philadelphia Medical Journal*, February, 1898) a case of this character in which the entire mucous membrane of the buccal cavity and the pharynx was inflamed, the ulcers being extremely painful, while the nasal passages did not show any evidence of the disease. The case was treated successfully merely on hygienic principles, boracic acid and honey being used locally.

"The Physiological Relations Between the Nose and the Sexual Apparatus of Man and Woman Also.—DR. JOHN NOLAND MACKENZIE, Baltimore, elaborates (*Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin*, 1898, No. 82) his essay published in THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES, April, 1884, in a paper before the British Medical Association at its last meeting in Montreal; and reference is made to a number of articles which have appeared since his own. The essay presents attractions for the curious as well as for the studious."

The Relationship of Nasal Diseases to Insanity is elaborated by DR. C. ZIEM in the *Monatsschrift für Ohrenheilkunde*, 1897, Nos. 11 and 12, and consists largely of the subject as manifested in his own person, with a summary of observations of others, and general remarks, historical, physiological, and pathological.

Congenital Occlusion of the Posterior Nares.—DR. J. PAYSON CLARK reports (*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, February 24, 1898) a case of complete congenital occlusion of the posterior nares, and gives a summary of Huhbell's collation of seventeen cases in 1886, to which he adds three additional. His own patient was a girl aged eighteen years, with an osseous occlusion, a portion of which was removed with the trephine. An illustration is given of the microscopic appearance of the thickest portion of the bone removed with the trephine.

The Asch Operation for Deviations of the Cartilaginous Nasal Septum.—DR. EMIL MAYER, of New York, reports (*Medical Record*, February 5, 1898) the result of two hundred instances of this operation, which he describes in detail, with illustrations of the instruments used. It will be remembered that this operation essentially consists in cross excision through the septum, and then in turning the four flaps thus made down upon themselves in the more capacious passage, taking care to break the cartilage so as to destroy its resiliency and keeping the weakened septum in the middle line by the agency of a perforated plug in the narrow passage. Of the one hundred and twenty-two patients operated upon in the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, and tabulated, all are reported cured. The same is to be inferred of the seventy-eight cases operated at the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital which are untabulated.

[This operation of Asch is certainly the most successful with which the compiler is acquainted, and the section of the cartilage may be performed with the knife in the absence of the specially devised cutting scissor-pliers. An unfortunate sequel which has occasionally occurred in the compiler's practice is not to be ignored, and this is the sloughing of one of the flaps forcibly turned down, presumably from distorhooce in its nutritioo. This will leave a permanent perforation of the septum. It occurs but rarely, but the possibility of its occurrence must be duly weighed by the operator.]

OBSTETRICS.

UNDER THE CHARGE OF

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Vitelline Placenta in the Human Subject.—In the *Scottish Medical and Surgical Journal*, May, 1898, BALLANTYNE concludes an interesting paper on this subject with the statement that in the symphyal foetus it is common to find the absence of the allantois and parts derived from it. The placenta is developed from vitelline vessels with the umbilical cord. The foetal part of the placenta has been supplied with vessels from the vitelline circulation.

The Bacterium Coli Commune as a Cause of Puerperal Fever.—In the *Archiv f. Gynäkologie*, 1898, Band lv. Heft 2, SCHENK reports two cases in which the bacterium coli commune was isolated, and by inoculation proved to be the cause of puerperal septic infection. The first case was that of a multipara on whom a midwife had produced an abortion. This patient died of sepsis. An examination showed streptococci and the bacterium coli commune to be present in the peritoneum of the patient. The second case recovered, but this germ was found in the cervix, and animals inoculated with it became septic. This germ alone is sufficient to cause sepsis, but is especially deadly when combined with streptococci. It usually finds its way into the vagina from the rectum, and hence any method of conducting labor which requires the introduction of the finger into the rectum is not advantageous.

Management of Normal Labor.—In the *Scottish Medical and Surgical Journal*, May 1898, JARDINE, in a paper on this subject, gives the following hints of practical value: As an aid to cleanliness, he would have a canvas lying for the obstetric bag, which could be removed and washed. He uses a long curved glass douche-tube, grooved for the purpose. He is careful to cleanse his hands before palpating the abdomen. Lysol is his favorite antiseptic. In supporting the perineum he pushes the whole structure forward with the extended hand. If the placenta is not removed in one half hour he introduces