[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 disturbance in its nutrition. 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 symphyseal 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 lining 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