

and nerves and by the grooves for the nasopalatine nerve, and is traversed by sutures connecting the bones of which it is formed.

The **lateral wall** (Fig. 196) is formed, in front, by the frontal process of the maxilla and by the lacrimal bone; in the middle, by the ethmoid, maxilla, and inferior nasal concha; behind, by the vertical plate of the palatine bone, and the medial pterygoid plate of the sphenoid. On this wall are three irregular antero-posterior passages, termed the superior, middle, and inferior meatuses of the nose. The **superior meatus**, the smallest of the three, occupies the middle third of the lateral wall. It lies between the superior and middle nasal conchæ; the **spheno-palatine foramen** opens into it behind, and the **posterior ethmoidal cells** in front. The sphenoidal sinus opens into a recess, the **sphenoethmoidal recess**, which is placed above and behind the superior concha. The **middle meatus** is situated between the middle and inferior conchæ, and extends from the anterior to the posterior end of

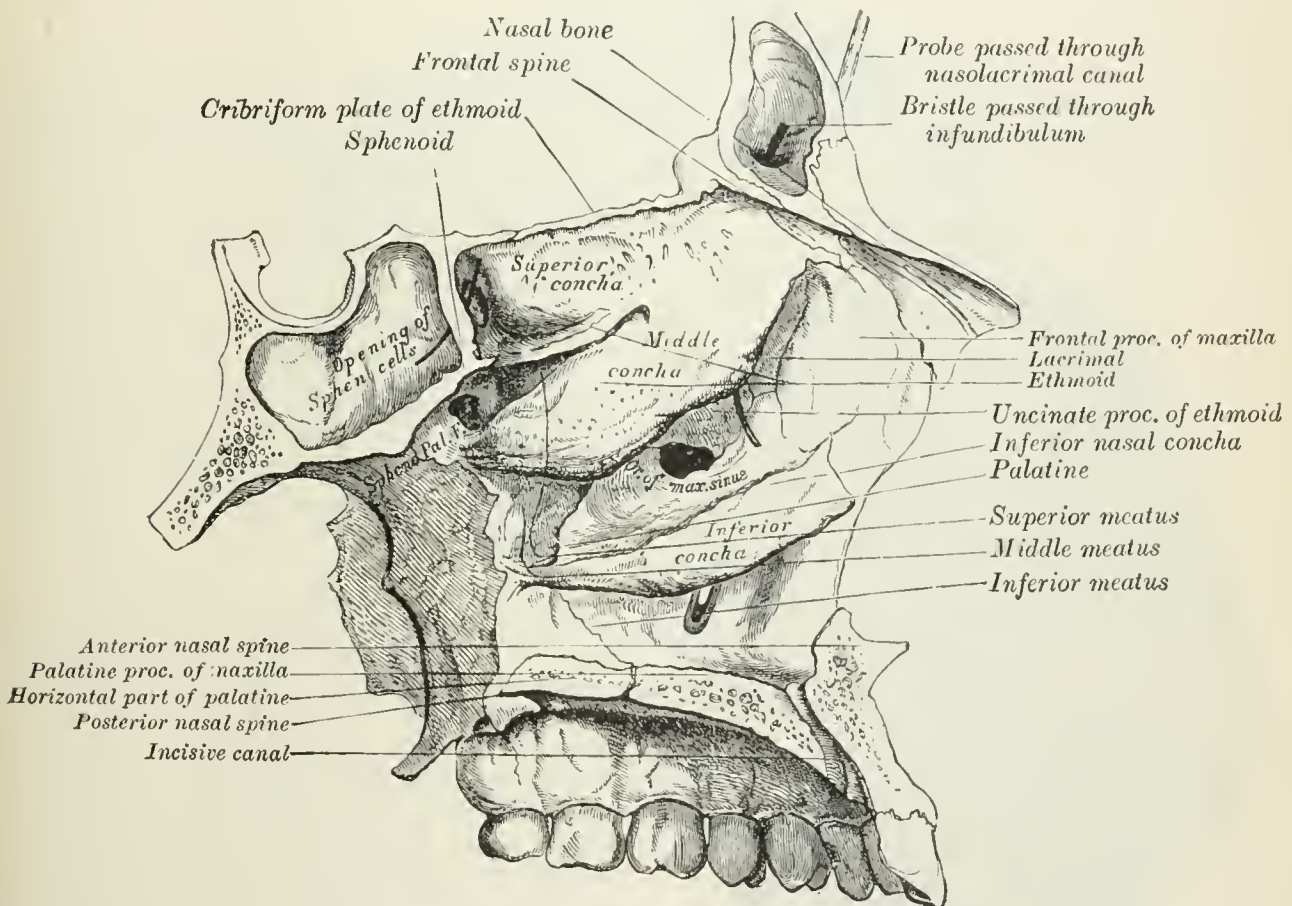


FIG. 196.—Roof, floor, and lateral wall of left nasal cavity.

the latter. The lateral wall of this meatus can be satisfactorily studied only after the removal of the middle concha. On it is a curved fissure, the **hiatus semilunaris**, limited below by the edge of the uncinate process of the ethmoid and above by an elevation named the **bullæ ethmoidalis**; the middle ethmoidal cells are contained within this bullæ and open on or near to it. Through the hiatus semilunaris the meatus communicates with a curved passage termed the **infundibulum**, which communicates in front with the anterior ethmoidal cells and in rather more than fifty per cent. of skulls is continued upward as the **frontonasal duct** into the frontal air-sinus; when this continuity fails, the frontonasal duct opens directly into the anterior part of the meatus. Below the bullæ ethmoidalis and hidden by the uncinate process of the ethmoid is the opening of the maxillary sinus (**ostium maxillare**); an accessory opening is frequently present above the posterior part of the inferior nasal concha. The **inferior meatus**, the largest of the three, is the space between the inferior concha and the floor of the nasal cavity. It extends almost the entire