aquæductus cochleæ, which lodges a tubular prolongation of the dura mater establishing a communication between the perilymphatic space and the subarachnoid space, and transmits a vein from the cochlea to join the internal jugular; (4) behind these openings is a deep depression, the **jugular fossa**, of variable depth and size in different skulls; it lodges the bulb of the internal jugular vein; (5) in the bony ridge dividing the carotid canal from the jugular fossa is the small **inferior tympanic canaliculus** for the passage of the tympanic branch of the glossopharyngeal nerve; (6) in the lateral part of the jugular fossa is the **mastoid canaliculus** for the entrance of the auricular branch of the vagus nerve; (7) behind the jugular fossa is a quadrilateral area, the **jugular surface**, covered with cartilage in the fresh state, and articulating with the jugular process of the occipital bone; (8) extending backward from the carotid canal is the **vaginal process**, a sheath-like plate of bone, which divides

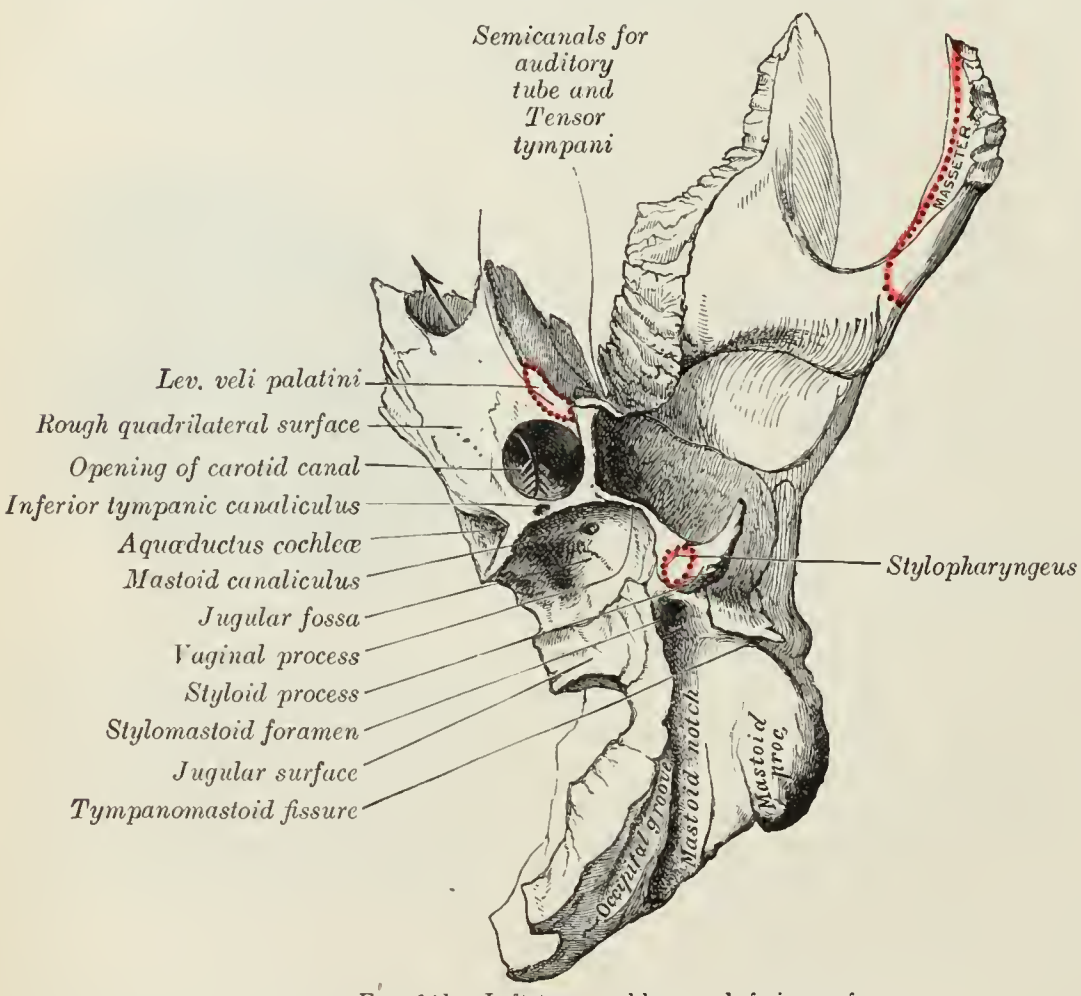

FIG. 141.—Left temporal bone. Inferior surface.

behind into two laminæ; the lateral lamina is continuous with the tympanic part of the bone, the medial with the lateral margin of the jugular surface; (9) between these laminæ is the **styloid process**, a sharp spine, about 2.5 cm. in length; (10) between the styloid and mastoid processes is the **stylomastoid foramen**; it is the termination of the facial canal, and transmits the facial nerve and stylomastoid artery; (11) situated between the tympanic portion and the mastoid process is the tympanomastoid fissure, for the exit of the auricular branch of the vagus nerve.

Angles.—The **superior angle**, the longest, is grooved for the superior petrosal sinus, and gives attachment to the tentorium cerebelli; at its medial extremity is a notch, in which the trigeminal nerve lies. The **posterior angle** is intermediate in length between the superior and the anterior. Its medial half is marked by a sulcus, which forms, with a corresponding sulcus on the occipital bone, the channel for the inferior petrosal sinus. Its lateral half presents an excavation —the **jugular fossa**—which, with the jugular notch on the occipital, forms the