of nerve fibers and contains numerous medium-sized nerve cells, the connections of which are as yet not fully determined.

The **corpora mammillaria** (*corpus albicantia*) are two round white masses, each about the size of a small pea, placed side by side below the gray substance of the floor of the third ventricle in front of the posterior perforated substance. They consist of white substance externally and of gray substance internally, the cells of the latter forming two nuclei, a **medial** of smaller and a **lateral** of larger cells. The white substance is mainly formed by the fibers of the columns of the fornix, which descend to the base of the brain and end partly in the corpora mammillaria. From the cells of the gray substance of each mammillary body two fasciculi arise: one, the **thalamomammillary fasciculus** (*bundle of Vicq d'Azyr*), passes upward into the anterior nucleus of the thalamus; the other is directed downward into the tegmentum. Afferent fibers are believed to reach the corpus mammillare from the medial lemniscus and from the tegmentum.

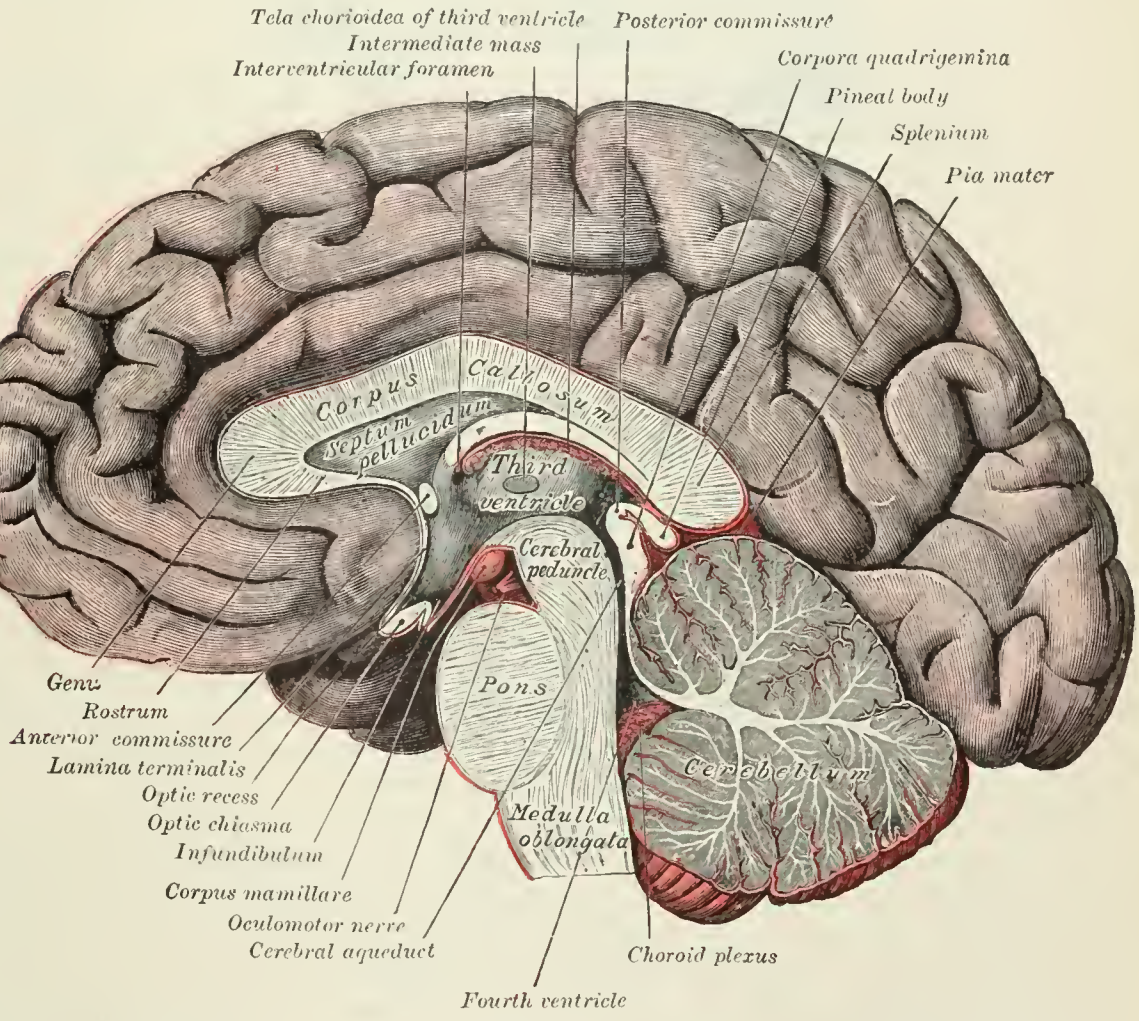

FIG. 720.—Median sagittal section of brain. The relations of the pia mater are indicated by the red color.

The **tuber cinereum** is a hollow eminence of gray substance situated between the corpora mammillaria behind, and the optic chiasma in front. Laterally it is continuous with the anterior perforated substances and anteriorly with a thin lamina, the **lamina terminalis**. From the under surface of the tuber cinereum a hollow conical process, the **infundibulum**, projects downward and forward and is attached to the posterior lobe of the hypophysis.

In the lateral part of the tuber cinereum is a nucleus of nerve cells, the **basal optic nucleus of Meynert**, while close to the cavity of the third ventricle are three additional nuclei. Between the tuber cinereum and the corpora mammillaria a small elevation, with a corresponding depression in the third ventricle, is sometimes seen. Retzius has named it the **eminentia saccularis**, and regards it as a representative of the saccus vasculosus found in this situation in some of the lower vertebrates.