

## Extracts from British and Foreign Journals.

Unless otherwise stated the translations are made specially for this Journal.

**Perforation of the Vermiform Appendix, with Peritoneal Abscesses.** DEATH AFTER A LONG INTERVAL FROM PYÆMIA.—Dr. D. W. Finlay read a case with the above title. John L., a baker, was admitted into the Middlesex Hospital on January 4th, 1884. He complained of severe pain over the whole abdomen, which was moderately distended, tender, and tympanitic. The areas of liver and splenic dulness were normal. Heart and breath sounds were normal. Tongue dry and coated, with a brown strip down the centre; cheeks flushed, lips dry and cracked. Pulse was 96, compressible; temperature  $96.6^{\circ}$ ; respiration 24, and entirely thoracic. The urine was turbid with lithates, and very acid, specific gravity 1,034, free from albumen and sugar. As to history, he stated that he had had a similar attack three years previously, suffering from abdominal pain, with sickness and feverishness. Otherwise his health had been good. His present illness came on a week before admission with griping pains across the lower part of the belly, followed by vomiting, headache, and diarrhoea. He was treated with opium, and put upon a diet of milk and beef-tea, and three days after admission appeared much better; the general tenderness of abdomen had disappeared, but there was a spot midway between the costal margin and iliac crest on left side, where tenderness remained, and the percussion note was dull. On January 9th his bowels were opened for the first time after admission, the motions being loose and light in color, with a few small scybala. During the night he had been seized by pain in both parotid regions, and this was followed by swelling and tenderness, with inability to open the mouth. Both swellings suppurated, and were incised; his temperature slowly rose, and he became delirious, and sank somewhat suddenly on January 16th. He had had no rigors. At the *post-mortem* examination three large and as many small abscess sacs were found within the peritoneum, the oldest-looking being round the vermiform appendix, which was perforated about half way from its attach-