sick. As to the mortality in lying-in hospitals, there was no doubt it was a most painful and dreadful calamity, and any way of preventing the spread of puerperal fever should be most carefully considered by the profession.

At the termination of the sectional meeting, the concluding general meeting of the Association was held in the Council Chamber. A grant of money in aid of scientific researches was carried on the motion of Dr. Waters; and then, after the passing of certain formal resolutions, the gathering of 1869 resolved into its constituent elements.

DR. BEATTY'S ADDRESS.

In the condensed account of Dr. Beatty's address, published in our last number, and furnished to us by a shorthand writer at Leeds, there is an error which we think it right to point out. Dr. Beatty said—or was represented by the reporter to have said—that a book containing a chapter on the Theory of Painless Extinction was published under the auspices of a Society. This was not the case; the book in question was published in 1838, and we believe that no Society had any share in its production.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

TESTIMONIAL TO DR. W. R. SANDERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—We beg to send you a copy of a testimonial which was this day presented to Dr. W. Sanders. The testimonial was signed by 296 Students of Medicine of this School, including 32 of the 44 gentlemen who completed their medical curriculum this year by taking the degree of M.B.

We shall feel greatly obliged by your allowing it to appear in the next number of your widely-circulated journal.

And are, Sir, your obedient servants,

JAMES S. CAMERON, M.B., M.R.C.S.

BYROM BRAMWELL, M.B., L.R.C.S.

Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, August 9th, 1869.

COPY.

To William Rutherford Sanders, Esq., M.D., etc.

SIR,—We, the undersigned Students of Medicine, having heard that you are likely to be a candidate for the vacant chair of General Pathology in the University, in the event of its being rendered vacant by the resignation of Professor Henderson, embrace this opportunity of expressing our high sense of your qualifications for that position. You have for many years enjoyed a well-earned reputation in this School as a Lecturer on Physiology, Pathology, and Clinical Medicine, as a practical instructor in histological anatomy at Surgeon's Hall, and as a zealous clinical observer and teacher in the Royal Infirmary. The fact of your having held, for upwards of fifteen years, the post of Conservator of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, which contains a collection of pathological specimens scarcely equalled, shows the high esteem in which you are held as a pathologist by the members of our profession, and is itself a special qualification as a teacher of morbid anatomy. Your many and original contributions to the literature of medicine, more especially your recondite researches into the pathology of the nervous system, and the healthy and morbid functions and anatomy of the spleen, have given you a very high place amongst the promoters of scientific medicine; while the efficient manner in which the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* has been conducted since it fell into your hands, sufficiently testifies to your literary capacity and to the extent of your medical erudition.

Those of us who have come into actual contact with you cannot refrain from expressing their appreciation of your great forbearance and uniform kindness to your pupils, and the readiness that you have ever displayed to encourage inquiry, as well as the lucid manner in which you have explained all points of difficulty, and the accuracy that has invariably distinguished your statements. We also bear witness to the pleasure with which we have listened to your

lectures, and to the instruction they have conveyed; to the painstaking, laborious, and philosophic investigations on which they were based; and to the clear and concise and careful manner of their delivery.

In conclusion, we most sincerely hope that your candidature may be successful; feeling, as we do, that your appointment would sustain the efficiency of the chair, and add to the lustre of our University.

Edinburgh, July, 1869.

THE EFFECTS (!) OF VACCINATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In reference to a note on Vaccination in THE LANCET of July 31st, I may mention that I have recent notes of six cases of children brought to the out-patient department of the Victoria Hospital for Children with skin eruptions, attributed by the parents indignantly to vaccination. Two of these cases were itch; two were eczema impetiginodes caused by pediculi; one was a well-marked syphilide, but the mother admitted that the child had had snuffles and "a rash" about the anus soon after its birth and before vaccination; and the last case was ordinary lichen strophulus, from dentition.

Post hoc, propter hoc, is an argument just now plied by rich and poor against vaccination; how far or not with truth, cases such as the foregoing may in some measure serve to show.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD ELLIS.

Warwick-street, Belgravia, August 6th, 1869.

EDINBURGH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE graduation ceremony at the University was on this occasion of more than usual interest. Sir Alexander Grant as Principal and Vice-chancellor, occupied the chair. The attendance of professors was good, seven of those of the medical faculty being present, and amongst them we were glad to see Mr. Syme. Sir Roderick Murchison and Dr. Sharpey were amongst the number of the visitors. In addition to the usual presentation of the graduates in medicine, Professor Macpherson opened the proceedings by presenting, in the name of the Senatus Academicus, Sir Roderick Impey Murchison for the degree of Doctor of Laws, which was conferred by Sir Alexander Grant amidst loud applause.

Professor Balfour, as Promoter of the Medical Faculty, presented the candidates for medical honours. These were divided into (1) candidates for the degree of M.D. under the new statutes; (2) for the degree of M.D. under the old statutes; (3) for the degree of M.B. & C.M.; and (4) for the degree of M.B. alone. The total number of graduates was 76; but two of these had previously received their degrees under special circumstances. Two were abroad, and the degree of M.D. was conferred for the first time in absence; and seeing that under the new statutes no further examination is required after the M.B. and C.M. degrees have been conferred, it is a very proper innovation on the part of the Senatus.

Of the M.B.s of this year, the most distinguished was Mr. George Amsden, who took first-class honours. Byrom Bramwell and George Kincaid Pitcairn took second class.

Under the old statutes, the degree of M.D. was conferred on five gentlemen; under the new statutes this degree was conferred on 26 candidates; 39 received the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Master in Surgery; whilst 5 took that of Bachelor of Medicine.

The medals for the best theses were two in number. One was awarded to Mr. John Haddon for his thesis "On the Sphygmograph and the Thermometer in Health and Disease;" the other to Mr. John Miller Strachan, whose subject was "The Histology and Functions of the Cerebellum." Those of Drs. Lightfoot, Affleck, and C. Currie Ritchie were commended.

A most interesting part of the proceedings then followed—viz., the conferring for the first time the Ettles Medical Scholarship on the Graduate in Medicine of the University