I think, Sir, the best thanks of the medical graduates, and, indeed, of the profession generally, are due to our great leader, Sir William Jenner, for his plain and outspoken denunciation of the action of the Senate, and to all those who so ably advocated our rights. The paltry excuse given by the Senate's adherents—viz., that it was compelled to exercise its powers at the request of one woman, shows clearly how weak minded that body must be, and is, as truly described by Dr. Quain, "utter nonsense."

In consenting to take action at such a request, the Senate has entirely overlooked the future welfare of the University and justly aroused the indignation of many of its graduates.

It is to be hoped that no effort will be spared in endeavouring to save our grand University from the degradation which awaits it, if women are ever permitted to graduate in medicine.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

August 11th, 1877.

A YORKSHIRE PHYSICIAN.

THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHISM.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—As a sequel to my letter in your journal of the 2nd of June, I shall be obliged if you can insert the following form of resolution; and this I more particularly desire, because my first letter emanated almost entirely from myself, but the present form of resolution has been signed by every one of my school to whom I have personally applied, and the names attached are those of our leaders.

The resolution is purely abstract, and the only four gentlemen of your school to whom I have shown it, at once said, "If this represents fairly the views of your body, there can exist no logical objection to our extending to you the freest professional intercourse."

Such being the case, and knowing that you guide the profession, I trust you will assist in establishing peace on this basis, believing, as I do, that it comprehends the entire quarrel, and must, if acted upon, end the schismatical element in question.

GEORGE WYLD, M.D.

Great Cumberland-place, August 13th, 1877.

Form of resolution intended to be signed by both parties.

We, the undersigned, believing medicine to be a progressive art and science, hold that it is competent for any qualified medical man to adopt any theory or practice which he believes to be best for his patients. Therefore, the adoption of any theory or practice should not exclude any qualified medical man from the freest professional intercourse provided he does not trade on a distinctive name nor unprofessionally advertise his mode of practice.

(Signed)

Frederick F. Quin, Edward Hamilton, M.D., Hugh Cameron, R. E. Dudgeon, M.D. Ed., George Wyld, M.D. Ed., William Boyes, M.D., Richard Hughes, L.R.C.P. Ed., R. Douglas Hole, M.D., F. Black, M.D. Ed., J. Hamilton Mackenzie, M.D., D. C. Laurie, M.D. Ed., D. Matheson, L.R.C.P. Ed., T. L. Marsden, M.D., T. Engall, M.R.C.S. Eng., Alfred Pope, M.D., R. Dyce Brown, M.D.

* * No logical objection could possibly exist to extending free professional intercourse to any properly qualified practitioner who can conscientiously and unreservedly subscribe his name to the above resolution; but it is logically inconsistent that such a resolution should emanate from a section of men who are, and long have been, the advocates and champions of a "system" of medicine which has always been judged unreasonable, absurd, and devoid of any scientific foundation, and which is now evidently dying of sheer inanition. If the signers of this resolution had the courage of their opinions, and could bring themselves boldly to give up a profession of the homœopathic system, and to cease all connexion with homœopathic societies, hospitals, journals, and other publications, they would experience no difficulty in obtaining free professional intercourse, because they would no longer be homœopaths; but they deceive themselves if they imagine that homœopathy can ever be recognised as a part of scientific and rational medicine.—ED. L.

ENEMA APPARATUS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I beg to send you a description of an extempore enema apparatus, which is both simple and efficient. It is so readily made that I trust you will consider it worthy of registration in your columns. Two pieces of glass tubing are passed through the cork of a quart bottle, one of them extending nearly to the bottom of the bottle, and the other merely penetrating it; to the latter a piece of gas piping is affixed, about four feet in length, and having an ordinary bone enema-nozzle inserted into its further extremity. It is used in the following manner:—Place a pint or more of enemata into the bottle, and having added the cork, with its appendages, hold the apparatus about three feet above the patient, and invert it. On the fluid contents escaping in a jet, let the elastic tubing be pinched between the thumb and forefinger, close to the nozzle, and this may now be inserted into the anus, when the bottle will be rapidly emptied of its contents. I usually get an attendant to hold up the bottle, but a wooden shelf five or six feet in height could readily be constructed to receive it.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

J. OUGHTON,

Surgeon-Major, A.M.D.

Pembroke Dock, Aug. 9th, 1877.

NEW YORK.

(From our own Correspondent.)

VACCINATION has been reduced to a very perfect system in this city by a legislative Act creating a bureau of vaccination in the Board of Health. Previously to 1874 vaccination was performed only by physicians in private practice and at the dispensaries. The result was that the great mass of new-born children among the poor were neglected, and there was a regular recurrence of an epidemic of small-pox at intervals of three to five years. For fifty years these recurring epidemics found vast numbers of unvaccinated, and the mortality was very great. But the general alarm had the effect of securing general vaccination, and the following year witnessed the good results in an almost complete disappearance of the disease. The epidemic of 1871-2-3 assumed much larger proportions than at any preceding period, and paved the way to legislative interference. Compulsory vaccination is so repugnant to our mixed population that no stringent law could be obtained in this State, but the present law answers an admirable purpose. It provides that the Board of Health shall be empowered to organise corps of vaccinators, appoint the necessary officers, keep suitable records, and by ordinances make such additional provisions as will most effectually secure the end in view—viz., "the more effectual prevention of the spread of small-pox by the thorough and systematic vaccination of all unvaccinated persons." The power was thus given the Board of Health of securing general vaccination. The plan adopted is briefly as follows:—A corps of trained vaccinators was appointed and placed under the direction of one of the most thorough students of vaccination in this city; the city was divided into vaccination districts, and a vaccinator assigned to each. The duties of the vaccinators are daily house-to-house and room-to-room visitation, the vaccination gratuitous of all unprotected persons who will permit the operation, and a careful registration of all the vaccinated and unvaccinated. The virus is cultivated by the bureau, and is now almost entirely bovine. The work has now been in progress upwards of two years, and its results appear in the report of the Director recently made, but not yet published. When the work began we were in the midst of a widespread epidemic, which gradually declined, and within one year disappeared altogether. The number of primary vaccinations performed was 24,395, the rate of success of first vaccinations was 86.5 per cent. in the total number; but one case in the whole number proved insusceptible to repeated vaccinations, and in that case it had been repeated six times. In 145 cases of primary vaccinations complications occurred and these were serious in but a single case. It is now con-