

Correspondence.

The Editors are not responsible for any views expressed by correspondents.

Ontario Medical Council.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN MEDICAL REVIEW.

SIR,—The editor of the *Canadian Practitioner* insinuates that, in these latter days, the Medical Council chamber has become a bear-garden, and assigns to me the honor of being chief performer therein. The insinuation is somewhat malicious, and the assignment is merely a very puny attempt to give me a "Roland for my Oliver." The Council debates are conducted with quite as much dignity and decency as are those of the University Senate to which the genial editor of the *Practitioner* belongs, and it is a matter of regret that he can thus permit himself to risk wounding the whole Council with the pitiful object of scratching the face of a single member. That there is indeed more warmth and life in Council debates than formerly obtained, goes without saying. The acts and contentions of the "Solid Phalanx" are now sharply criticised and reforms in the interests of the profession are, at least, attempted. There is, consequently, at times, a more or less marked conflict of opinion, and, occasionally, as in all other deliberative assemblies, there may be pointed attack and vigorous defence. But no one of our members, and no one who has attended our discussions will agree with the editor in question that these ever so transcend the limits of decorum as to justify even a spiteful person in levelling at the Council the insult thus deliberately and gratuitously offered to it. How unfortunate it is that any grown man, even though togated with the professorial gown and wielding the editorial "we," can still condescend, when his knuckles have been sharply rapped, to seek relief for his surcharged feelings by falling back upon the schoolboy trick of making faces and calling names!

The only semblance of an excuse for so vile and slanderous a charge, that can be found in the last two years' proceedings of the Council, is, perhaps, a short lecture on "The Proper Way to be a Reformer" which was delivered by my esteemed friend Dr. Williams for my especial benefit, and which may be found reported on page 35 of this year's Announcement. It was of course well understood in the Council that Dr. Williams' little effort was prompted not so much by