

### The Professional Liar.

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*To the Editor of the DOMINION DENTAL JOURNAL :*

SIR,—What can an honest man do in competition with one who is dishonest? How am I to meet the competition of a rival who is the greatest liar in his profession I ever met, and yet who takes up the collection in church, teaches a class in the Sabbath School, and can never speak two minutes without boasting of the purity of his motives, and the genuineness of his statements? When he tells the people in the town that he discovered certain methods of practice, which we all know were known before he was born (!); when he declares in the public press that he has a monopoly of "the only correct methods," etc., what can an honest man do? When he swears that he invented the crown and bridge work which he has to hire a mechanic to do for him; when the dentists who know him, know perfectly well that he has built up his practice by lying, and by representing himself as possessed of superior qualifications, when, in fact, he has no recognized qualifications at all, and has never opened his mouth or used his pen in his profession before other dentists, what is to be done? He has a little influence of a social kind which enables him to throw dust in the eyes of society, and he is such a cunning master of intrigue and double-dealing, that you cannot touch him, unless you come out openly and squarely—accuse him as a liar, *and prove it*. I believe he would then twist around, and lie again that he had not lied. Thank heaven, we haven't many such people in our ranks in Canada. But we have some, and we know them. Of course I do not include Toronto.

RUSTIC.

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### The Question Drawer.

Address all correspondence connected with this Department to DR. R. E. SPARKS, Kingston, Ont., Can. Matter for publication should be in the hands of the Editor not later than the 10th of each month, and must have the writers' names attached, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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[Answers to 9 and 10 came too late for last issue.—ED.]

9. Q.—Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson said, "Nitrous oxide only produces asphyxia, and that asphyxia is the first stage of death." Turnbull, Sansom and other authorities condemn it. What is the difference between anæsthesia and asphyxia?

Anæsthesia is a condition produced by the inhalation of various drugs, similar to the effects produced by different narcotics through alimentation, the forces of life being maintained in the meantime; in other words, a patient under the influence of an anæsthetic