

street car. Now, my rival was a poor student ; was always what we call "a bad egg ;" and from his boyhood was distinguished for mean and cunning tricks upon his friends. In fact his reputation extended beyond the confines of our little town, and gave him an unsavory name a hundred miles away. He "picked up" what he knows by vagrant studentship. But to read his advertisement, you would think a new dental genius had been born, and that those of us who have won by hard study and honesty a reputation among our confreres—who are, after all, the best judges of a dentist—are ignorant and unskilful ! How am I to meet such rivalry ?

Yours truly,

ONTARIO L.D.S.

[Surely not by flattering a quack by imitation. We cannot conceive of any way of meeting such a rival on his own ground, except by surpassing him by the ingenuity and immensity of lying. The quack who is the greatest liar attracts the most attention. There is, however, a moral and professional compensation in uprightness and integrity, far beyond the passing "success" your rival enjoys. One wants courage and faith in these times to be honest. It needs neither to be a knave.—ED. D.D.J.]

Editorial.

Argenti Nitras as a Therapeutic Agent.

We wish to refer to an important paper in the October number of the *International Dental Journal*, entitled, "What value has argenti nitras as a therapeutic agent in dentistry?" by Dr. E. A. Stebins, of Shelburne Falls, Mass. We had the pleasure of hearing the paper and seeing the patients, at the meeting of the Connecticut Valley and the Massachusetts Dental Societies last June. It is, we know, unfair to the author to epitomize his remarks, but we do the best our space will afford. The Doctor begins by referring to the arrest of caries, frequently observed in teeth, wherein "black spots" or "black crust" is present, and inquires if this condition