

tion favors the rupture of the ovisac; after menstruation he believes coition is less often followed by conception. Of course, during the four days previous to the flow the spermatozoa would retain their vitality in the genital passage of the female, and thus be ready to fecundate the urine when it entered the uterus.

MENTHOL IN NEURALGIA.—Menthol is very popular (*Br. Med. Jour.*) as a local remedy for relieving neuralgia of the fifth nerve, and other painful affections. Dana advises its internal administration in doses of five to twenty grains to relieve pain. It gives a pleasant feeling of warmth, and stimulates the cardiac action, without increasing its rapidity, and raises the arterial blood-pressure. It is especially useful in megrim and supra-orbital neuralgia, and in the headaches of neurasthenic and anæmic patients, also in sciatica. Saffrol in twenty drop doses is also good in headache and sciatica.

THE USE OF DRUGS FOR THE UTERUS.—Dr. Lombe Athill recently stated (*Annals of Gynecol.*), that no ordinary medicines produce any effect on menstruation when taken during the flow, excepting the drastics. He doubts whether ergot, savin, quinine, or strychnine have any appreciable action on the muscular fibres of the uterus. Astringents are useless in menorrhagia and metrorrhagia, including tannin, gallic acid, minor alacids, etc., in his opinion. Full doses of tincture of iron are useful, but only in anæmic women, while he relies on ergot alone.

FOR GASTRIC ULCER.—Dr. Longfellow gives, in the *Lancet-Clinic*, a formula which he says has done good service in gastric ulcer:

R.—Liq. potass. arsenit., 3j.
Tinct. opii deod., 3ijss.
Acid hydrocyanic, dil., 3jss.—M
Aquæ destil. q. s. ad. 3iv.—M

Sig.—One teaspoonful every three hours, after taking milk.

Minute doses of cocaine have at times been indicated, and combined with the above, with the result of decided relief of pain. All starch and sugar foods are to be withheld.

GASTRO-INTESTINAL CATARRH IN INFANTS.—Dr. Irwin (*Am. Pract. and News*) treats gastro-intes-

tinal catarrh in infants by first evacuating the bowels by a mild laxative, such as castor-oil, and by regulating the diet, the food consisting of barley-, or rice-water only. Where further medication is necessary, a few doses of the following mixture, for a child one year of age, usually gives relief:

R.—Tr. opii deodorat., gtt. xv.
Ac. boric (Squibb's), grs. xx.
Aq. menth. pip., 3 ij.—M.
Sig.—3 every two or three hours.

BURNS.—The best treatment for burns and the indolent ulceration which follows them, is the following:

R.—Iodal,
Ichthyol, āā 5 j.
Cosmoline, 3 j.
m ft. ung.
(*Therapeutic Analyst.*)

L'Union Med. recommends the following:

R.—Ac. carbolic, p. 1.
Ext. conii, p. 40.
Iodoformi, p. 80.
Ung. rosæ, p. 600.
m ft. ungt.

STRYCHNIA IN SNAKE-BITES.—Says Dr. Mueller (*Australian Med. Gaz.*), strychnine in snake-bite acts with the unerring certainty and precision of a chemical test. Purely physiological in action, it neutralizes the effects of the snake-poison, and if pushed beyond the amount needed to neutralize the snake-poison, would itself act as a poison. Its poisonous effects, on the other hand, could be combatted by injections of snake-poison, could the latter be at hand in an emergency of poisoning by strychnine.

CHRONIC DYSENTERY.—Dr. F. T. Field (*Medical World*) recommends the following for chronic dysentery:

R.—Tr. opii, 3 ij.
Ol. terebinthinæ, 3 ij.
Gum acaciæ,
Sacch. alb., āā 3 ss.
Ol. gaultheriæ, 3 ss.
Glycerini, 3 ij.
Aquæ, q.s. ad. 3iv.—M.

Sig.—3 j every four, five or six hours, according to the severity of the case.