

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 'LOVE OF TRAVEL' IN CALCAREA PHOSPHORICA\*

DR. P. S. KRISHNAMURTY, Hyderabad

"Discontented with his own surroundings and goes from place to place"<sup>1</sup>

—Kent

Kent very much highlighted in his *Materia Medica* and *Repertory* the significance of 'love of travel' in *Calcarius phosphoricum*. Other authors of materia medica simply mentioned the characteristic symptom: 'likes to be at home and when at home to go out; goes from place to place'. Factually one finds 'cosmopolitan' rubric to be similar to 'desire to travel' rubric in the *Kent's Repertory*. If one refers to see provings the source of the symptom is 'she wishes to be at home and when at home, to go out; goes from place to place.' Subsequently the clinical symptom, 'desire to travel' was verified and one finds in the *Kent's Repertory Calc. phos.* as the only first grade remedy among the three second grade and eight third grade remedies.<sup>2</sup> Kent emphasised 'love of travel' as the tubercular diathesis. He mentioned a good number of mental symptoms akin to it.<sup>4</sup> In the *Synthetic Repertory*, Dr. Horst Barthel up-graded Hippomanes, Iodium, Mercurius and Tuberculinum into first grade and added Carcinocin in the first grade. In addition he added Am.c., Am.m., Bar.c., Bell., Calc., Caust., Goss., Mag.c. and Thea. This addition is authentic and very useful to develop both materia medica and repertory.<sup>3</sup> According to *Synthetic Repertory* there are five first grade remedies in the rubric 'desires to travel'. This symptom is the most important characteristic symptom in the *Calc. phos.*

This symptom can be more usefully utilised if erudite physicians ponder to elicit the symptom 'desire to travel' in the infant, the child, the youth and the old person. This is because *Calc. phos.* acts well in all stages of life from infancy to old age. An infant expresses this symptom as restlessness, causeless weeping and grasping mother with hands.<sup>6</sup> Feels better in being carried in arms? A child loves to go out with parents or servants on a ride or otherwise with a degree of difference of above mentioned symptoms if he is not taken out. The symptom is not difficult to elicit in other stages of life because the patients can emphasise 'the pathological propensity' of the symptom clearly.

In the Western life, to go out on weekends is normal in life and it cannot be taken as a pathological symptom! Similarly a professional traveller is bound by duty to travel often. In spite of these norms, if a patient

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still feels like travelling unnecessarily, such pathological feeling should be taken as a symptom of 'desire to travel'. The expression of this symptom is not the prerogative of only the affluent but it can be observed in the have-nots by an alert and vigilant physician. Symptom evaluation is an art of homoeopathic prescribing<sup>7</sup> and individualisation of both the remedy and the patient is the *sine qua non* in Homoeopathy!

There is another interesting observation, i.e. 'the patient changes doctors often'. The inner meaning of the pathological mind is 'discontented with his own surroundings'.<sup>8</sup> On this clue this author used Calc. phos. CM I dose to a patient who divorced his wives six times! on the following symptoms. Thinking on complaints aggravation—dreads mental exertion—ailments from grief—cold in general aggravation—ravenous appetite—desires salt, bacon—sexual desire increased—h/o gonorrhoea in the past—incidence of PTB in the grand parent—h/o muscular dystrophy and insanity in the paternal uncles. It is doubtful to determine whether it is because of Calc. phos. the seventh wife is still with him even after ten years! Jullia M. Green reported two cases of muscular dystrophy cured with Calc. phos.<sup>9</sup> William B. Griggs reported another case of muscular dystrophy cured with Calc. phos.<sup>10</sup> This author got good results in such cases with Calc. phos.

If one finds pathological 'cosmopolitan' attitude for different religions, foods, dress, living and environment, one has to search for other indications for Calc. phos. in the patient for the selection. An interesting finding of this author is that 'desire for company' is a second grade contra-indication in Calc. phos. but 'cosmopolitan outlook' and 'desire to travel' are a little out of the way expressions to 'company aversion' type of patients. This author used Calc. phos. on the patients even with the contra-indication of 'desire for company' with good results. No textbook on *materia medica* mention it. But Calc. phos. is listed in the third grade in the rubric of 'desire for company' in the Kent's *Repertory*.<sup>11</sup> Reproaches himself and reproaches others is another good mental symptom in Calc. phos. not mentioned in the *materia medica* but listed in the Kent's *Repertory*.<sup>12</sup> This is what is called reading repertory through *materia medica*. If one reads *materia medica* also through repertory then to refer the rubrics in the repertory becomes quick and easy.<sup>13</sup>

This author is very much benefited by the important concomitance of 'the intellectual and the lung symptoms'! Of course another interesting concomitant symptom in Calc. phos. is the anal and lung troubles. Kent gave useful hints on 'convertible' and 'interchangeable' conditions.<sup>14</sup>

This author drops two interesting thoughts for reflection in this august scientific body. E. A. Farrington warns not to give much value to the symptom of 'motion aggravation' in Calc. phos. on the plea "every little exposure (in rachitis) produces a feeling of heat all over the body. The periosteum and the articulations are irritated and inflamed and cause this aggravation from motion."<sup>15</sup> This clinico-pathological explanation will not undervalue

the symptom 'motion aggravation' in the Calc. phos.

In the *Guiding Symptoms*<sup>16</sup> and other texts on materia medica one finds a couple of preparations for the manufacture of Calc. phos. medicament. What is the authentic preparation being used now? Because the international pharmacists like A. Nelson & Co., Boericke & Tafel, and Willmar Schwabe etc. are present in this conference, one can get a thorough clarification on this subject.

#### SUMMARY

The significance of the symptom 'love of travel' in the Calc. phos. The importance of the rubric in Kent's *Repertory* and *Synthetic Repertory*.

How to elicit this symptom from the infant, the child, the youth and the old person?

How to evaluate this symptom?

The scope of utilisation of the symptom 'changes doctors often' in the Calc. phos. in the practice.

The meaning of the rubric 'cosmopolitan'.

'Desires for company' is no contra-indication to Calc. phos.

'Intellectual symptoms and lung symptoms'; anal troubles and lung troubles as important concomitant symptoms in the Calc. phos.

Two thoughts for reflection.

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