

## SIGNPOSTS

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### CAUSTICUM

Causticum is the mystery town in the Homœopathic continent, in that its exact composition is unknown, for Dr. Farrington tells us:—"Causticum is evidently a potash preparation, but its exact composition I do not know. Hahnemann was not able to define it, and chemists since his time have not been able to tell of what it is composed. Nevertheless, it is a unique remedy and is one we cannot do without in practice."

Three large signposts point to this unique town. *Soreness, Rawness, Burning.*

No matter what the disease or in what part of the human organism any pain or ache is experienced, if the patient states that the sensation is sore, raw and burning. Causticum is the first remedy that must be studied.

Another peculiar modality is that the patient feels better in *damp, wet weather.*

The inhabitants of Causticum are melancholic, unhappy, look on the dark side of things, are full of forebodings and apprehensions. They are peevish, irritable, censorious, suspicious and distrustful. They are also timid, nervous and anxious, but funny to relate they have intense sympathy for the sufferings of others.

They are subject to paralysis of single parts or single nerves—facial paralysis, especially when the result of exposure to *dry, cold winds.*

They lose their voice and become hoarse, and this is always worse in the morning.

They get coughs and cannot cough deep enough to raise the phlegm; or the phlegm partly raised, slips back in to the pharynx. The urine may spurt during the cough. This inabi-

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