

And he was one of the most successful Homœopathic prescribers.

Before concluding I want to emphasise the fact that the skill and efficiency in taking the case can hardly be acquired by a private study of Homœopathic literature and by experience in an un instructed practice. A persistent drilling and exercise in Hospital practice or under the supervision of a good prescriber can alone make one perfect in homœopathic prescribing, especially in chronic diseases.

The difference between the trained Homœopath and the self-taught Homœopath who does not know the technique lies in the fact that when the former fails, he knows he has not been able to touch the vital force, but the latter thinks he is correct and Homœopathy is wrong and helpless. This latter class of physicians then take to the Allopathic method in which quackery is easy and successful, but they lower Divine Homœopathy in the estimation of the world.

CARBO VEGETABILIS AND THE RESPIRATORY TRACT

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One way to distinguish between the ordinary method of drug administration and the homœopathic might be this: In the ordinary method the drug is confined to the diagnosis and unlimited as to patients. In the homœopathic method the drug is confined to the patient and unlimited as to the diagnosis. So we shall see that *Carbo vegetabilis* is unlimited as to coryza, laryngitis and pneumonia as long as it fits the patient.

To begin with, let us consult Dr. Harvey Farrington as to what kind of a patient *Carbo vegetabilis* fits.

It is often suited to sluggish, obese and lazy people. They are venous individuals tending to varicose veins and tend to

show cyanosis and subject to venous hemorrhages. Because of the poor circulation there is a tendency to coldness, both subjective and objective. There is numbness and tingling. Oddly enough while there is much coldness, the most characteristic pain is burning. Possibly we should not call the patient lazy as he is much debilitated and prostrated. He faints easily. Mentally he is dull and indifferent and yet with this he may be irritable, sad and weeping, and is often very anxious and restless. Most always he is flatulent. Old people and people in the last stages of an illness often require *Carbo vegetabilis*.

Now as to causes and modalities : over-eating ; rich foods ; salt ; alcohol ; getting overheated. The most pronounced time aggravation is morning and evening although evening has the edge. He is worse from : cold ; cold drafts ; warm room ; warm, wet weather ; warmth ; getting overheated ; becoming chilled after getting overheated ; after eating ; all sorts of dietary indulgences ; walking in open air ; clothing about the abdomen. He is better from : Cool air ; open air ; repose ; and most markedly by eructations.

As *Carbo veg.* affects the respiratory tract from stem to stern only three conditions will be discussed, namely, coryza, laryngitis and pneumonia.

Coryza : This may be fluent or dry. In the latter type it may be due to a coryza suppressed after becoming chilled while overheated. The fluent coryza may be first noticed in the right nostril and later appear in the left nostril. It is worse morning and evening. It may come on in violent attacks. The coryzas of *Carbo veg.* always tend to extend downward winding up in the chest. A laryngitis may accompany a coryza from the beginning. The discharges are of many types ; bloody ; excoriating ; thick ; watery ; greenish ; flocculent ; suppressed. Epistaxis may be a concomitant of the coryza and because of the venous nature of *Carbo veg.* the blood is dark, almost black, and thin, showing little tendency to clot and the hemorrhage little tendency to stop. Bleeding may show up in older persons. It is worse on blowing the nose and from any jar. One peculiarity is nosebleed during stool. The nose may become stopped up, usually in the evening and in a warm room. Burning is the most

common sensation in the nose and drawing also is frequent, both being most marked at the root of the nose. Much discharge may go down the throat from the posterior nares. Squeezing is a pronounced symptom. It is frequent and there are often ineffectual efforts to sneeze. Sneezing after coughing.

My father had a theory about colds that sounds reasonable in many instances. By over-indulgence the body built up toxins and the colds were only mechanisms of the body to get rid of them. Toledo's changeable weather and temperatures and high humidity make it ideal for breeding respiratory troubles.

As a sort of postscript to coryza might be added a tip or two to make one think of *Carbo veg.* The nose is cold, the tip often red and the nose often shows enlarged veins.

Laryngitis : This may come first but it usually comes as a concomitant to coryza or as a sequel of the condition's spreading downward. While the upper part of the respiratory tract has morning and evening aggravation, the lower is more likely to be worse in the evening. Again, somewhat unlike the nose, it is worse from cold air. Here again burning and rawness are the pronounced pains of laryngitis, also soreness. Breathing, especially inspiration, aggravates. Talking, coughing and clearing the larynx make matters worse. There is irritation and tickling. In spite of the aggravation from clearing the larynx, there is a great tendency to do so. The larynx may feel swollen. There may be a sensation in it as of sulphur vapor and a feeling of crawling. The voice shows hoarseness. Here again we find the morning and evening aggravation with the evening the more pronounced. It is a frequent concomitant of coryza. The voice also has a rough sound. There is often a loss of voice, worse from exertion. So we see many traces of the patient as a whole under a different diagnosis.

Pneumonia : *Carbo veg.* is seldom called for in the early stages of the disease. It comes quite close to the end where most of the generals are prominent. Here it shows all of the depressed state of the drug. There is apathy, cyanosis and coldness, especially of nose and knees ; even the breath and sweat are cold. If he complains of pain at all it is of an intense burning nature like hot coals. The discharges are offensive.

There may be a tendency to hæmorrhage with the usual dark, thin blood. Breathing is difficult and the patient must be fanned in spite of the general coldness. Respiratory paralysis threatens. A peculiarity is that he wants cold drinks during the chill but is thirstless during the fever. *Carbo veg.* gives an excellent picture of a person in extremis and has a reputation for bringing many out of such a state.

Thus, from the above, we see *Carbo veg.* confined to one type of patient but unconfined to three different diagnoses. This paper does not cover all the uses of *Carbo veg.* in diseases of the respiratory tract. There is chronic catarrh, hay fever, asthma and many others but the fundamental indications are most important for its indications.

The writer is most grateful to Dr. Harvey Farrington, and to all others unmentioned, from whom he copied in assembling this short dissertation on *Carbo vegetabilis*.

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CASE HISTORY

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In the latter part of the year 1951 I had to undertake the treatment of a very complicated and critical case. She was a lady patient then about 48 years old; mother of Sri L. R. Malpani, a motor parts dealer of Jaipur.

She had a chain of scrofulous cold abscesses all around her neck badly suppurating. Also in armpits. The pus discharge was copious daily, rather thick butter-like but neither offensive nor painful. These were persisting for about a year or more. She was at the same time passing her climacteric period with flushes of profuse bleeding every now and then. Besides, con-