LYCOPODIUM

(Club Moss)

This drug is inert until the spores are crushed. Its wonderful medicinal properties are only disclosed by trituration and succussion.

In nearly all cases where Lycopodium is the remedy, some evidence of urinary or digestive disturbance will be found. Corresponds to Grauvogle’s carbo-nitrogenoid constitution, the non-eliminative lithaemic. Lycopodium is adapted more especially to ailments gradually developing, functional power weakening, with failures of the digestive powers, where the function of the liver is seriously disturbed. Atony. Malnutrition. Mild temperament. Of lymphatic constitution, with catarrhal tendencies; older persons, where the skin shows yellowish spots, earthy complexion, uric acid diathesis, etc.; also precocious, weakly children. Symptoms characteristically run from right to left, acts especially on right side of body, and are worse from about 4 to 8 p. m. In kidney affections, red sand in urine, backache, in renal region; worse before urination. Intolerant of cold drinks; craves everything warm. Best adapted to persons intellectually keen, but of weak, muscular power.


Head.—Shakes head without apparent cause. Twists face and mouth. Pressing headache on vertex; worse from 4 to 8 p.m., and from lying down or stooping, if not eating regularly. Throbbing headache after every paroxysm of coughing. Headaches over eyes in severe colds; better, uncovering. [Sulph.] Vertigo in morning on rising. Pain in temples, as if they were screwed toward each other. Tearing pain in occiput; better, fresh air. Great falling out of hair. Eczema; moist oozing behind ears. Deep furrows on forehead. Premature baldness and gray hair.

Eyes.—Styes on lids near internal canthus. Day—blindness. [Bothrops.] Night-blindness more characteristic. Sees only, one-half of an object. Ulceration and redness of lids. Eyes half open during sleep.

Ears.—Thick, yellow, offensive discharge. Eczema about and behind ears. Otorrhea and deafness with or without tinnitus; after scarlatina. Humming and roaring with hardness of hearing; every noise causes peculiar echo in ear.


Face.—Grayish-yellow color of face, with blue circles around eyes. Withered, shriveled, and emaciated; copper-colored eruption. Dropping of lower jaw, in typhoid fever. [Loch.; Opium.] Itching; scaly herpes in face and corner of mouth.

Mouth.—Teeth excessively painful to touch. Toothache, with swelling of cheeks; relieved by warm application. Dryness of mouth and tongue, without thirst. Tongue dry, black, cracked, swollen; oscillates to and fro. Mouth waters. Blisters on tongue. Bad odor from mouth.

Throat.—Dryness of throat, without thirst. Food and drink regurgitates through nose. Inflammation of throat, with stitches on swallowing; better, warm drinks. Swelling and suppuration of tonsils. Ulceration of tonsils, beginning on right side. Diphtheria; deposits spread from right to left; worse, cold drinks. Ulceration of vocal bands. Tubercular laryngitis, especially when ulceration commences.
**LYCOPODIUM**

**Stomach.**—Dyspepsia due to farinaceous and fermentable food, cabbage, beans, etc. Excessive hunger. Aversion to bread, etc. Desire for sweet things. Food *tastes sour*. Sour eructations. Great weakness of digestion. Bulimia, with much bloating. After eating, pressure in stomach, with bitter taste in mouth. *Eating ever so little creates fullness.* Cannot eat oysters. Rolling of flatulence. [Chin.; Carb.] Wakes at night feeling hungry. Hiccough. *Incomplete burning eructations rise only to pharynx, there burn for hours.* Likes to take food and drink hot. Sinking sensation; worse night.


**Stool.**—Diarrhoea. Inactive intestinal canal. Ineffecutable urging. Stool *hard, difficult, small, incomplete.* Haemorrhoids; very painful to touch, aching. [Mar. ac.]

**Urine.**—Pain in back before urinating; ceases after flow; stov in coming, must strain. Retention. Polyuria during the night. *Heavy red sediment.* Child cries before urinating. [Bor.]

**Male.**—No erectile power; impotence. Premature emission. [Calad.; Sel.; Agn.] Enlarge prostate. Condylomata.


**Heart.**—Aneurism. [Baryta carb.] Aortic disease. Palpitation at night. Cannot lie on left side.

**Back.**—*Burning* between scapulae as of hot coals. Pain in small of back.
Extremities.—Numbness, also drawing and tearing in limbs, especially while at rest or at night. Heaviness of arms. Tingling in shoulder and elbow joints. One foot hot, the other cold. Chronic gout, with chalky deposits in joints. Profuse sweat of the feet. Pain in heel on treading as from a pebble. Painful callosities on soles; toes and fingers contracted. Sciatica, worse right side. Cannot lie on painful side. Hands and feet numb. Right foot hot, left cold. Cramps in calves and toes at night in bed. Limbs go to sleep. Twitching and jerking.

Fever.—Chill between 3 and 4 p.m., followed by sweat. Icy coldness. Feels as if lying on ice. One chill is followed by another. [Calc.; Sil; Hep.]

Sleep.—Drowsy during day. Starting in sleep. Dreams of accidents.


Modalities.—Worse, right side, from right to left, from above downward, 4 to 8 p.m.; from heat or warm room, hot air, bed. Warm applications, except throat and stomach which are better from warm drinks. Better, by motion, after midnight, from warm food and drink, on getting cold, from being uncovered.

Relationship.—Complementary: Lycop. acts with special benefit after Calcar. and Sulphur. Iod.; Graphites; Lack.; Chelidon.

Antidotes: Camph.; Puls.; Caust.

Compare: Carbo-Nitrogenoid Constitution: Sulphur; Rhus; Urtica; Mercur.; Hepar. Alumina. (Lycop. is the only vegetable that takes up aluminum. T.F. Allen.) Ant.c.; Nat.m.; Bry.; Nux; Bothrops (day-blindness; can scarcely see after sunrise; pain in right great toe). Phimbago littoralis—A Brazilian plant—(Costive with red urine, pain in kidneys and joints and body generally; milky saliva, ulcerated mouth). Hydrad. follows Lycop. in indigestion.
William Boericke

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