The Harvey Chapel at Hempstead.

BY THE LATE

SIR DAWSON WILLIAMS.

WILLIAM HARVEY died in his eightieth year on June 3rd, 1657, at the house of his brother Eliab at Roehampton. This brother had, about the year 1647, acquired by purchase from Sir Charles Mordaunt the Manor of Winslow (or Wincelow) at Hempstead a small Essex village situate about seven miles east of Saffron Walden and some fifty miles from London. The church, in which is a chapel known as the Harvey Chapel, was originally a Norman structure, dating from the reign of William Rufus, who in 1089 settled it on Battle Abbey, Sussex. A late Norman font and fragments of the Norman chancel are preserved in the existing church. The church was rebuilt about the year 1340 in the Decorated Gothic style, the four clustered pillars, supporting pointed arches, separating each of the aisles from the nave, being highly ornamental and beautiful. The Harvey Chapel, on the north side of the chancel, is a plain rectangular brick building, with a high-pitch tile roof, and lighted by a large triple-light window. This chapel contains sixteenth century memorial brasses of a date prior to its association with the Harvey family. Beneath the chapel Eliab Harvey had in the year 1655 built an outer vault

as a sepulchre for his family; and it was here, as we shall see, that the mortal remains of the great William Harvey were first laid. The fabric of the Early English church still exists, except that about one-third of the west end of the nave was destroyed when the tower fell in 1881, and was rebuilt in 1884 at the cost of upwards of £2,000.

The church contains altogether some nine brasses dating from 1472 to 1530, to representatives of families resident at the three ancient manors of the parish. The memorials to members of the Harvey family in the chapel begin with Eliab, who owned and occupied one of these manors, his wife, and children, and descend to another William Harvey and his wife, whose features are shown in a pair of very striking medallion portraits by Koubiliac, the famous sculptor. There is also a fine memorial tablet to Admiral Sir

Eliab Harvey, who was in command of the *Téméraire*, chosen by Lord Nelson to be his supporting ship at the battle of Trafalgar. The earliest memorial in the church is the exceedingly interesting thirteenth century marble tablet in the floor of the chancel with a Norman-French inscription, decipherable only by the indentations in the stone from which the inlaid lettering has been displaced and lost. The reading is: 'Dame Margerie de Basingge gist ici Dieu de sa alme eit merci Amen'; in English, "Lady Margerie de Basing lieth here: May God upon her soul have mercy Amen."

Again, another interesting relic is an heraldic helmet set on an iron bracket above the pulpit, surmounted by the Harvey crest—a hand supporting a crescent at the finger-tips.

The sarcophagus containing the remains of William Harvey himself is within the chapel, but the monument to him is just outside on the north wall of the nave. It consists of a marble bust, with his arms above, and a long and laudatory Latin inscription below. The bust is set in a niche, over which is a small arched pediment having, upon its rising sides, two cupids in posture of distress, one of which is represented holding in his hand a death's head. The

Marble sarcophagus containing the remains of William Harvey. Erected by the Royal College of Physicians in Hempstead Church, Essex, 1883.

monument is a composition of black and white marble, veined. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, who took a great interest in all that pertained to the last resting-place of Harvey, came to the conclusion that this bust had been copied from a cast of the face of Harvey taken after his death; in this opinion he was supported by Mr. Woolner, R.A., who visited the church in 1878.

Eliab, who was Harvey's executor, resolved that his brother's body should be placed in the family vault he had constructed. The funeral started from London on June 26th, and was followed far beyond the City walls by a large number of the Fellows of the College of Physicians.

Harvey's body was simply wrapped in lead without a coffin, which seems to have been a custom peculiar to the Harvey family. The leaden case used for

William Harvey was roughly shaped in the form of a body, having a head, neck, and shoulders, from which it gradually tapered towards the feet, where it was turned up at a right angle. It had a broad breastplate with the following inscription in raised letters:

DOCTOR
WILLIAM HARVEY
DECEASED THE 3
OF JUNE 1657
AGED 79 YEARS.

When visited in 1847 by Richardson, and again in 1859 and 1868 by Dr. A. P. Stewart and Dr. (afterwards Sir) Richard Quain, the leaden shell lay upon

The original memorial to Harvey (1657) upon the wall at the entrance to the Harvey Chapel in Hempstead Church.

the floor just beneath a small window in the eastern wall. The suggestion arose that the remains should be removed to Westminster Abbey, and was favoured by Dean Stanley; but he was then in failing health, and nothing was done until matters were brought to a crisis in January, 1882, by the fall of the tower of the church. No damage was done to the Harvey Chapel, but the College of Physicians decided to take some action. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson reported to the College in February, 1882, that the lead of Harvey's shell was going fast, and suggested that the remains should be raised to the Harvey Chapel above the vault. The College appointed a committee, consisting of Sir William Jenner (President), Sir James Risdon Bennett, Sir Henry Pitman, and Drs. Sieveking, Richardson, Frederick Farre, Quain, and A. P. Stewart. It was decided to keep the remains at

Hempstead, but to remove them to the Chapel above the vault and to place the leaden case in a sarcophagus. The floor of the Chapel was strengthened by pillars built in the vault, and a plain sarcophagus of pure white Carrara marble provided. The memorial was designed and carried out by Maile and Sons of Euston Road.

The following inscription was placed at the head of the sarcophagus:

WILLIAM HARVEY
Born 1578. Died 1657.

The following was engraved on one side:

The remains of William Harvey
Discoverer of the Circulation of the Blood
were reverentially placed in this sarcophagus by
the Royal College of Physicians of London
in the year 1883.

A leaden case was also prepared, in which was placed the edition of the works of Harvey published in Latin by the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1766, and edited by Drs. Akenside and Lawrence. On one side of this was engraved:

GULIELMI HARVEII
Opera Omnia
Edita
MDCCLXVI.

On the other side was inscribed:

The complete works of William Harvey
deposited October 18th, 1883.

A memorial bottle, hermetically closed, was also prepared and was wrapped in lead. In it was placed a memorial, engrossed on vellum by Messrs. Harrison of St. Martin's Lane. The leaden case enclosing the bottle had inscribed upon it:

SCROLL

Deposited October 18th, 1883.

The following is a copy of the memorial itself:

"The body of William Harvey lapt in lead simply soldered was laid without shell or enclosure of any kind in the Harvey Vault of this Church of Hempstead Essex, in June 1657.

"In the course of time the lead enclosing the remains was from exposure and natural decay so seriously damaged as to endanger its preservation rendering some repair of it the duty of those interested in the memory of the illustrious discoverer of the circulation of the Blood.

"The Royal College of Physicians of which corporate body Harvey was a munificent Benefactor and which by his favour is the possessor in perpetuity of his patrimonial Estate at Burmarsh, Kent, did in the years 1882-83 by permission of the Representatives of the Harvey family undertake that duty.

"In accordance with this determination the leaden mortuary chest containing the remains of Harvey was repaired and as far as possible restored to its original state and on this 18th day of October 1883 in the presence of four Representatives of the Harvey family and of the President, all the office-bearers and many other Fellows of the College of Physicians (whose names are hereunto appended) was reverently translated from the Harvey Vault to this Sarcophagus raised by the College for its reception and preservation."

The scroll was signed by four members of the Harvey family, and by the President, Censors, Treasurer, Registrar, Harveian Librarian, and a number of Fellows of the College, who attended at Hempstead on St. Luke's Day (October 18th), 1883. The leaden coffin was then raised to the churchyard and carried up the nave and aisle into the Harvey Chapel, the pall-bearers being eight Fellows of the College, of whom the last survivor was Sir Dyce Duckworth, who died last January. At the conclusion

of a short service the leaden shell was lowered into the sarcophagus, and the President of the College placed the case containing the scroll in a glass bottle and the metal box containing the copy of Harvey's works also in a bottle, beside the leaden coffin in the interior of the sarcophagus.

Note.—Sir D'Arcy Power says, in his Masters of Medicine Series, that the marble monument containing the bust of William Harvey is "high in the wall of the Church at Hempstead." The ornamentation of the tablet is bold and effective, and below the bust is a long Latin inscription. He quotes from the report of Mr. Thomas Woolner, R.A., as follows: "The features presented by the bust are clearly those of a dead face. The sculptor exhibits no knowledge of sculpture except when he was copying what was directly before him. With the cast of the face for his copy he has shown true artistic delineation, but all that he has been obliged to add to make up the bust as it stands is of the worst possible quality. The ears are placed entirely out of position, the large redundant head of hair is altogether out of character, imaginary, and badly executed, and the drapery of the shoulders is simply despicable."

The Latin inscription upon the original memorial to Harvey reads:

GULIELMUS HARVEIUS
Cui tam colendo Nomini assurgunt omnes Academiae
Qui diurnum Sanguinis motum Post tot Annorum
Millia Primus invenit
Orbi Salutem Sibi immortalitatem
Consequutus.
Qui ortum et generationem Animalium Solus omnium
A Pseudophilosophia Liberauit
Cui debet
Quod sibi innotuit humanum genus Seipsam medicina.
Serenis Majestat: Jacobo et Carolo Britanniarum Monarchis
Archiatrus, et charissimus
Colleg: Med: Lond: Anatomes et Chirurgiae Professor
Assiduus, et foelicissimus
Quibus Illustrem Construxit Bibliothecam
Suoq. Dotauit et Ditaui Patrimonio.
Tandem
Post triumphales
Contemplando, Sanando, inveniando,
Sudores,
Varias domi forisq. Statuas Quam totum circuit
Microcosmum Medicinae Doctor ac Medicorum
Improles Obdormiuit.
111^o Junii Anno Salutis C^o D^o C^o CLVII, Aetatis LXXX^o
Annorum et Famae Satur.
RESURGEMUS.

Of this a liberal English translation (by the Rev. T. Conyers Barker, M.A., Vicar of Hempstead) is as follows:

WILLIAM HARVEY
to which honoured name all the Universities
pay the greatest veneration:
Who after so many thousand years first discovered
the constant circulation of the blood,
obtaining thereby health to the world and immortality to
himself
Who alone of all men rescued the birth and generation of animals
from false philosophy,
To whom mankind are indebted for the knowledge of medicine
itself,
Chief and dearly-loved physician to their Serene Majesties
James and Charles, Kings of Britain;
Diligent and successful professor of anatomy and surgery in the
College of Physicians at London,
for whom he erected, and endowed with his own estate,
a magnificent library.
At length
after labouring with success in his studies, in his practice, and in
his discoveries,
And after many statues had been erected both at home and
abroad,
When he had encompassed the whole order of Medicine and of
Medical Science, this learned man
died without issue on the Third of June in the year of our
Lord 1657, of his age the 80th,
Full of Years and Honour.
WE SHALL RISE AGAIN.

HARVEY TERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

MAY 14TH TO 18TH, 1928.

THROUGH the courtesy of the President and Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians of London we have received an advance copy of the full programme for the tercentenary celebration next week of the publication of *De Motu Cordis* by William Harvey. This programme is a beautiful document, printed in pamphlet form, with three fine photo-gravure plates, one being a reproduction of Harvey's portrait by Jansen, the second showing the Arms of the College, after Richard Wallis's design, and the third showing the College Insignia displayed on their tasselled velvet cushion. The whole work has been carried out with reverent care by Mr. Emery Walker at his Hammersmith press. The text includes a short account of Harvey's life and work, an historical note on the College and its possessions, and an imposing list of the delegates from twenty-one foreign countries, from the Dominions beyond the seas, and from the British Isles, who will be received by the King at Buckingham Palace on Monday morning and will take part in the other ceremonies. Besides these official delegates, ninety in number, from universities, colleges, and scientific bodies at home and abroad, Harvey's birthplace will be represented by the Mayor of Folkestone; his school by the late Headmaster of King's School, Canterbury; his hospital by the Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's; his College at Cambridge by the Master of Gonville and Caius; Merton College, Oxford, by his successor to-day in the office of Warden; and the Harvey family by the Rev. Rosendale Lloyd. The delegate of the British Medical Association is its President, Sir Robert Philip.

At the reception to be held by the Royal College of Physicians on Monday afternoon four eminent men will be admitted as Honorary Fellows—the Earl of Balfour, K.G., O.M., F.R.S., Sir Ernest Rutherford, O.M., President of the Royal Society, Professor Pavlov of Leningrad, and Professor Wenckebach of Vienna—and short eulogies of Harvey will be delivered by a physiologist, Sir Charles Sherrington, O.M., F.R.S., a physician, Professor A. Chauffard of Paris, and an anatomist, Professor Franz Keibel of Berlin. The other functions during the week are indicated in the abridged time-table printed below. After the luncheon party at St. Bartholomew's, Sir Wilmot Herringham will give an account of Harvey's connexion with that hospital. The visit to Cambridge will be followed by a meeting of the Physiological Society to be held there on Saturday. The Harvey tercentenary will be celebrated in Paris on the following Tuesday, May 22nd, at a commemorative function arranged by the Académie de Médecine.

TIME-TABLE.

Monday, May 14th.

- 11 a.m.—Reception of Delegates by His Majesty the King at Buckingham Palace.
- 3 p.m.—Reception of Delegates and distinguished guests by the President of the Royal College of Physicians at the College. Presentation of Addresses by Delegates. Admission of Honorary Fellows. Eulogies of Harvey.
- 6.30 for 7 p.m.—Dinner given by the Grocers Company at Grocers' Hall.
- 9 p.m.—Lady Bradford "At Home" at 8, Manchester Square.

Tuesday, May 15th.

- 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.—Demonstrations arranged by the Royal College of Physicians in the Physiological Department of University College. A reproduction of Harvey's original experiments displayed by cinematograph. Demonstrations illustrating some recent additions to our knowledge of the circulation.
- 1.15 p.m.—Luncheon at St. Bartholomew's Hospital given by the Governors of the Hospital.
- 4 p.m.—Tea at the Royal College of Physicians with exhibition of books, MSS., pictures, silver, and other objects of interest.
- 9 p.m.—Conversazione at Merchant Taylors' Hall by permission of the Court of the Company. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has consented to be present.