

**THE HARVEIAN
ORATION, 1865**

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The Harveian Oration, 1865 by Henry W. Acland

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HENRY W. ACLAND

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ORATION, 1865**

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1865.

BY

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AND

HON. PHYSICIAN TO H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

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TO
THOMAS WATSON, M.D., F.R.S., D.C.L.,
PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
OF ENGLAND,
THE FOLLOWING ORATION,
DELIVERED AND PRINTED BY HIS DESIRE,
IS NOW GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED.

OXFORD, 1886.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. This includes both traditional manual methods and modern digital technologies, highlighting the benefits of automation and data integration.

3. The third part focuses on the challenges faced in data management, such as data quality, security, and privacy. It provides strategies to address these challenges and ensure that the data remains reliable and secure.

4. The fourth part discusses the role of data in decision-making and strategic planning. It explains how data-driven insights can help organizations identify trends, opportunities, and risks, leading to more informed and effective decisions.

5. The fifth part covers the importance of data governance and compliance. It outlines the necessary policies and procedures to ensure that data is handled in accordance with relevant laws and regulations, such as GDPR and CCPA.

6. The sixth part addresses the future of data management, including emerging trends like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and cloud computing. It discusses how these technologies will shape the way data is collected, stored, and analyzed in the coming years.

7. The seventh part provides a summary of the key points discussed in the document and offers recommendations for organizations looking to optimize their data management practices.

8. The final part concludes with a call to action, encouraging organizations to embrace a data-driven culture and invest in the necessary resources and skills to succeed in the digital age.

THE HARVEIAN ORATION,

1865.

WE celebrate once more the memory of those who in past times have brought honour to the College of Physicians of England; the memory also of those who have recently gone, of Kirkes, whose learning and skill were appreciated, and whose loss is lamented, wherever medical literature is known, of Turner, of the worthy brother of noble-hearted Southey, of Bird, and Duke, of one not yet laid in his grave, whose strong nature brought great fruit to others, to us, to himself—Ferguson; but above all of HARVEY, Founder of this commemorative Holyday. Happy we whom custom and his direction withdraw for a brief hour from the din and care of life to this peaceful task!

The occasion is singular. It might have been better if, when for the first time in History, HARVEY is discussed in his native tongue before the College he loved so well, the Cicero of English Medicine, as our

President has been justly called, had inaugurated this new series of discourses.

With combined authority and skill, Dr. Watson might have sketched with his strong yet pleasant touch the personal character of our Master; and would have drawn the old familiar man, keen of eye, small of stature, and gentle of mien. He might have set him before us a young and eager student with hair as black as raven, intent on his knife, or expounding its teachings; he might have shewn him later a peaceful contemplative man, now with head like snow, seated under a hedge with the Prince of Wales and his brother the Duke of York by his side*, reading with them, till dislodged by a cannon ball, near the inn called Sun Rising, (even now standing on the glorious slope of Edge Hill,) whence he could see the battle raging at his feet below. Or, pursuing another course, our President might have shewn in long array what consequences have followed, and what may yet follow, from the accurate study of the laws which regulate the circulation of the blood in the animal kingdom; and have

* Letters of John Aubrey, vol. ii. part ii. p. 379.

given us his matured views of the relations of the vital fluid to the organism in health, and to the organism in disease; expounding principles for the philosophy, and deducing rules for the practice, of Medicine; telling us of disease averted, of health maintained, or of health restored.

Called upon this day to perform, with unequal power, the task which I wish had fallen into worthier hands, I propose to treat of one general topic; viz. how far some points in Harvey's Methods of Discovery are in accordance with the ideas which the experience of advancing Science has taught. If it can be shewn that, after the lapse of two centuries, not only his discoveries were valuable but his methods were correct, we may with renewed confidence begin a fresh series of annual Scientific Essays, which the College has wisely decided to ask from its working and zealous Fellows.

HARVEY is popularly known by only one of his works, that no doubt which has been most fruitful, but not that probably which caused him most labour. The studies which