

Gabrielis Fallopii Mutinensis opera : given to the College by Harvey and formerly belonging to his father-in-law, Dr. Lancelot Browne.

Contributors

Moore, Norman, 1847-1922.
Royal College of Physicians of London

Publication/Creation

London : Publisher not identified, 14 May 1914.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/zebyqhrt>

Provider

Royal College of Physicians

License and attribution

This material has been provided by This material has been provided by Royal College of Physicians, London. The original may be consulted at Royal College of Physicians, London. where the originals may be consulted. Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

100116

GABRIELIS FALLOPPII
MUTINENSIS OPERA.

GIVEN TO THE COLLEGE BY

HARVEY

AND FORMERLY BELONGING TO HIS FATHER-IN-LAW,

DR. LANCELOT BROWNE.



MAY 14, 1914.

Nunc age quod superest cognosce et clarius audi.

Sir Henry Halford, whose portrait by Lawrence is one of the ornaments of our dining-room, and who presided over the College from 1820 to 1844, remarked to Mr. Dawson Turner, the well-known botanist and antiquary of Norwich, that an inscription in the 'Album Amicorum' of Philip de Clarges was the only autograph of Harvey which he had ever seen, and Mr. Dawson Turner has affixed a note in the album, which then belonged to him, to the effect that he had been unable to find any other writing of Harvey's. Mr. Dawson Turner died in 1858, and the album was bought by the British Museum at his sale on June 10, 1859.

Philip de Clarges, son of a Curator of the University of Leyden, was in 1636 a theological student there, and afterwards took to medicine. His coat of arms, drawn in the album, suggests that he was related to the Sir Thomas Clarges after whom the street is called in which the present Senior Censor lives. Sir Thomas Clarges' sister married General Monck, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, the chief actor in Charles II's restoration. When Philip was in London, Thomas Clarges was practising as an apothecary. He afterwards sat in Parliament, and was created a baronet. On the first page of the album is the signature of Dr. James Primrose, with the date June 8, 1641. He had been examined by Harvey, then a Censor, in 1629, for admission to the licence of this College, and passed. He was a pupil of Riolan, and, like his teacher, did not accept Harvey's demonstration of the circulation, and wrote a treatise against it. Harvey's inscription is the fourth—"Dii laboribus omnia vendunt | Nobilissimo juveni medico Phillippo de Clarges amicitiae ergo libenter scripsit | Gul. Harveus | Anglus Med. Reg. et Anatomie professor: Londini | May 8. A.D. 1641." | In the ninety-four years which have elapsed since Halford was first elected President three other examples of Harvey's writing have been found in the British Museum. These are the autograph of his lecture notes of 1616, which this College has published in fac-simile; his lecture notes of 1627, described by Dr. George Paget in 1850; and the marginal notes on his copy of Dr. Goulston's edition of the 'Opuscula of Galen,' which I chanced to discover in 1888.

In the past month I have found in our library a copy of Falloppius containing several brief annotations in Harvey's hand, some of them signed with his joined initials WH, and others marked by the capital delta with which he was accustomed to indicate that he had himself observed a particular fact. The book is a folio, "Gabrielis Falloppii Mutinensis—Opera quae adhuc extant omnia—Francofurti: Apud heredes Andreae Wecheli, 1584." The sides of the binding are original and are stamped with a beautiful central panel. On the two original fly-leaves at the beginning are notes of contents in a sixteenth century hand, that of the first owner of the book. He has written his name on the title-page, "Sum Lanceloti Brunii." This was Dr. Lancelot Browne, a fellow of Pembroke at Cambridge, who was elected a fellow of our College in the year that this edition of Falloppius was published. Like the present fellow of this College who bears his name, and is also a fellow of Pembroke, Dr. Browne knew

Arabic, and we possess a manuscript which shows his writing in that language :

“Specimen Arabici Dictionarii : hoc est : vocum Arabicarum collectio et interpretatio—Operâ et industriâ Gulielmi Bedwelli Cantabrigiensis Angli : A.D.N. MDIVC. Exscriptum per Lancelotum Brunium medicum Londinensem horis succisivis spatio ferme trium mensium et finitum 11 : Maii 1597. لا زكاوط برون الطيبي ب”

The Arabic words are “Lancelot Brown el tebib” (the physician). The manuscript is written in a large volume, which has all its original binding, with a fine gilt panel on each side and seven gilt ornaments on the back. The leaves of a smaller manuscript, each of which is headed “Gulielmi Bedwelli : Specimen Arabici Dictionarii,” are fastened into the book, and the large pages of the volume itself are ruled in double columns, in which Arabic words and their interpretations are written. Most of the words thus placed are taken from Avicenna, the first printed Arabic edition of whose *Liber Canonis* was published in Rome in 1593. William Bedwell, the author of the ‘Specimen,’ was born about 1561, became a scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, and devoted a great part of his life to oriental studies. At his death in 1632 he bequeathed to his University a manuscript Arabic lexicon in nine volumes, as is related by Professor Robertson Smith. Browne’s volume seems to be an exemplification of the contents of this work, which has never been printed. The notes in our copy of the Arabic Avicenna of 1593 were not, I think, written by Browne; perhaps they may prove to be in Bedwell’s hand.

Dr. Lancelot Browne’s Arabic script is not as beautiful as that which I have seen his successor in oriental knowledge here and at Pembroke write; but he had a fine Greek handwriting, and the letters of his Latin words are always well formed—very different from those of his illustrious son-in-law.

How carefully he had studied anatomy is shown by his copy of Fallopius. The volume has 848 pages, not counting the index, and a very large number of these bear notes, corrections, or more elaborate remarks in Latin in his hand. These are not often very interesting, but show his close attention to the subject.

In the chapter on the therapeutic uses of roses Fallopius says that the rose causes sneezing and cold in the head in many, and that some even refuse to like the scent of roses. Browne has noted in the margin the names of three ladies, patients of his, in whom these effects were produced. Fallopius, mentions, that Nicolas Machesius, his preceptor, used to use spurge (euphorbia) in dropsy, and Browne has written *Hydrops* in the margin. He has drawn up several elaborate anatomical classifications, mostly taken from Vesalius, and in one place has shown a comparison between the classification of Vesalius and those of Ambrose Parè and of Courtin. He copies a note out of Vesalius as to calvaria discovered in graveyards in Styria and Carinthia.

He seems to have been very well read in Vesalius, and constantly refers to him throughout the Anatomy. Numerous notes on the ‘*Observationes Anatomicæ*’ of Fallopius occur, such as in reference to the muscles of the eyes, “*Quintum par Fallopii pars Temporalium Vesalio Ex. 53.*”

One of Browne's notes refers to an autopsy he had himself made.

"In comitis Lincolnensis Ammirali magni dissecti arteriæ magnæ trunco iuxta lumbos in interna eius sede ossa quadam tenuia sed lata reperta plura 1585 L.B."

Were these ossifications in the vertebral cartilages such as Fallopius has described, or were they large patches of atheroma in the lower part of the aorta?

This Earl of Lincoln was Lord High Admiral of England for more than thirty years. He was knighted after the storming of Edinburgh in 1544 and sailed thence to Boulogne and took part in its siege, and in 1550 was made Lord High Admiral, a post which, with a short interval in part of Queen Mary's reign, he held till his death in 1585. A writer of the next century says that he was "as boysterously active as King Henry could expect, as piously meek as King Edward could wish, as warily zealous as Queen Mary's time required, and as piercingly observant as Queen Elizabeth's perplexed occasions demanded."

Browne very likely saw the Earl for the first time in 1564 when the University of Cambridge conferred upon him the degree of M.A.

While examining these very numerous notes and marks of Dr. Lancelot Browne I found on p. 91 the Δ and WH of Harvey appended to a remark of Fallopius that the gall-bladder is made as a sort of diverticulum. He meant to indicate that he had satisfied himself of this by dissection. Lower down on the page he has written *præparatio* opposite the statement that Galen and Hippocrates both advise that the alimentary canal and the body be prepared before administration of emetics.

On p. 110 in his 'De medicamentis purgantibus simplicibus' Fallopius says—"and because you are youths, and I also, therefore it is fit for you to read authors." Harvey has underlined the remark *sicut et ego* and written in the margin "*Fall. juvenis.*" Fallopius is said to have been only forty when he died in 1562 and had then taught for twenty-four years at Padua. On p. 309 in the treatise on metals he has written—"WH *simpliciter omnia concreta a magno calore liquantur.*" The remark interested him because Fallopius mentions a statement of Aristotle on the subject. Lower down on the page Harvey has written "*Naphtha: ubi colligitur.*" Harvey's notes are generally his initials, his Δ or a word or two. His initials occur about twelve times. His irregular heavy dashes under words of the text are easily distinguished.

By these marks we learn that Harvey had carefully perused the 'De simplicibus medicamentis purgantibus,' the 'De metallis seu fossilibus,' the 'De ulceribus,' and the "De tumoribus præter naturam" of Fallopius. He has left no marks in the four treatises on Anatomy, but his lectures show that he had read them. Excluding mere dashes under words, Harvey has left something over eighty notes in this folio volume. It had been well read by Dr. Lancelot Browne before it came into his son-in-law's hands, and we can follow Harvey's study in its pages. He gave it to the College, and with so distinguished a history it deserves a place of honour in our library.