

(5).

TITLE.:- HARDY MEMORIAL.

Picture.:- Thomas Hardy loved Dorchester. XXXX It was, in fact, the "Casterbridge" of his novels. XXXX One of his best friends was Sir James Barrie, who is here to-day to pay tribute to the Wessex novelist, by unveiling a bronze statue erected to his memory. XXXX The --

--memorial has been provided by funds contributed by lovers of Hardy's works all over the world. XXXX

Sir James Barrie revealed how the doctor thought the child Hardy was dead at birth. XXXX If it had been so,

--what a tragedy it would have been ! XXXX A world without Hardy, and a Dorchester without this splendidly unconventional effigy of its famous son, could not possibly be quite as --

--they are to-day ! XXXX The statue is a welcome relief from the usual type --

--of tribute erected to the memory of those who are no longer here to voice their opinions ! XXXX Lady Ilchester, chairman of the Memorial --

--Committee presents the statue to the town - for which many thanks ! XXXX I don't

--know which will last the longest - Hardy's works, or his statue !