so minutely and interestingly told by the author in these *Memorials*. For the story of their adoption of the barbers as "a pendecle" of surgery, of the difficulties of the Faculty in their relation to the charter and the letter of guildry (seal of cause), of the burning of the minute book (1682-1733), of the letters of horning and methods of suppressing illegal practice, of the famous lawsuit with the University of Glasgow, and many other matters, we must refer our readers to Mr. Duncan's pages.

By no means the least laborious part of the author's work has been the compilation of the Faculty's roll of members—Fellows as they are now called—from its foundation down to 1850. In this roll are to be found the names of many who, in their day, were well known in the world of science or literature, and to the medical archæologist or historian this roll of members will be of the greatest value.

On the whole, the history of the Faculty is a dignified and an honourable history. If, as has been remarked by a contemporary, the members quarrelled a great deal among themselves, they seem also to have been imbued with a high ideal of the medico-chirurgical art, and to have been inspired with a laudable desire to improve the curriculum and standard of examination required from those desirous of entering the profession. We are glad to have the fruit of Mr. Duncan's erudition and patient research embodied in this admirable book.

Deaf-Mutism : A Clinical and Pathological Study. By JAMES KERR LOVE, M.D. *With Chapters on the Education and Training of Deaf Mutes*, by W. H. ADDISON, A.C.P. Glasgow : James Maclehose & Sons. 1896.

THIS work is somewhat ambitious in its scope and aims, and the authors may, now that it is published, congratulate themselves on the results of their labours. It must be admitted that something of the kind was required by British readers. No doubt we have Hartmann's important monograph, translated by the late Dr. J. P. Cassells, of Glasgow, but as this appeared in 1881, it is now getting out of date. The same objection does not, of course, apply to Holger Mygind's admirable treatise (1894); but though this author had the courage to publish an English edition in London, his teaching is based on experience gained in Copenhagen, whilst his statistics are derived in great measure from Danish sources. It remains true, therefore, that an indigenous work on deaf-

mutism has, till now, been wanting in Britain, and those who take a true interest in the reputation of Glasgow as a medical centre will be gratified to find that the task of remedying this defect has fallen to such able hands.

The first eight chapters of the present volume are by Dr. Love; the remaining six by Mr. Addison. So far as statistics are concerned, the work may be considered to be fairly representative of Britain, and the authors express their indebtedness to teachers of the deaf throughout the country, not only for statistics furnished, but also for expressions of opinion on points referred to in a circular addressed to them.

Chapter I describes the general characteristics of the deaf-mute, and discusses the question as to the existence of physical and mental peculiarities, in addition to deaf-mutism, in such individuals. It is shown that physically the deaf-mute is not inferior to his hearing brother, and that, where the mental capacity is inferior, this is likely to be owing to the same cause as accounts for the (early acquired) deafness — *e. g.*, meningitis. At the same time, the great difficulty of educating the deaf-mute, as compared with the hearing child, to the full extent of his mental capacity is recognised and admitted.

Chapter II treats of the ear and hearing; Chapter III, of the hearing power of deaf-mutes; Chapter IV, of congenital deafness; and Chapter V, of acquired deafness. Some very interesting family trees are given to illustrate the inheritance of "surdism," or that degree of deafness which involves mutism. Dr. Love adduces some evidence for the belief that consanguineous marriages promote deaf-mutism. Thus, several principals of British institutions stated that "in their opinion consanguineous marriage produces more congenital deafness than the intermarriage of the congenitally deaf." Fortunately deaf-mutes do not increase in this country in the same proportion as the general population, one undoubted reason being that deaf-mutes are relatively sterile.

Acquired deafness which leads to dumbness is due, in about a fourth of all cases, to intracranial disease. Nearly as many cases are due to scarlet fever, and two other fevers which may induce the same condition are measles and typhoid.

Authorities differ greatly as to the relative frequency of congenital and acquired deafness. Dr. Love thinks that, in the West of Scotland during the latter half of this century, the two causes have been of nearly equal potency. The tendency, however, has been for the acquired cases to become relatively more numerous.

Chapter VI describes the morbid anatomy of deaf-mutism.

Dr. Love concludes that acquired deaf-mutism is generally due to disease of the internal ear, the mischief having extended in most cases from the middle ear, but sometimes from the side of the brain, whilst in rare cases it originates in the labyrinth. The changes in congenital deafness are not essentially different, except that in some instances (fewer, however, than used to be supposed) there is malformation or arrest of development.

Chapter VII deals with the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of deaf-mutism. Chapter VIII gives census returns. Chapter IX is a history of the education of deaf-mutes. Chapter X tells us what are the characteristics of the uneducated deaf-mute. Thus, they have no notion of God, though a few attain a certain perception of the difference between right and wrong. Chapter XI touches on the different systems of education—the oral or German method, the sign and manual system, and the combined system. There is great divergence of authorities as to which method is best. The pure oral is doubtless the ideally perfect system, but it would appear that for the majority of cases a combined method is desirable; while the sign and manual method seems to be most agreeable to the deaf-mute himself, involving as it does less intellectual effort. The next two chapters touch on the results, and the present state of education. The last chapter takes up some miscellaneous items, such as the deaf and blind, the employments of adult deaf-mutes, and the legal status of the deaf-mute.

As we have already indicated, this volume is one that does credit to its authors, and it deserves to rank high among recent additions to our medical literature.

An Address on the Use of Drugs. Delivered before the Harlesden Medical Society, on 11th October, 1895. By W. R. GOWERS, M.D. Lond., F.R.S. Reprinted from the *Lancet*, 23rd November, 1895.

THIS address is, we may hope, fairly representative of a healthy reaction in the minds of medical men against the tendency, which was so fashionable a few years ago, to decry, or at least to despise, drugs all round. Dr. Gowers here mentions, as one result of his early apprenticeship to a country practitioner, his firm impression that even the routine mixture and the routine pill do not only a definite, but a great amount of good.

Dr. Gowers contrasts two tubes, each of which contains