

attained in training them that Miss Ebersole feels repaid for her labour.

Just what opportunities are open to them outside it is a little too soon to say. It is doubtful whether they will ever be largely employed by white patients, but among people of their own colour they ought to find a wide field, and many large towns have a coloured population of some wealth. Philadelphia and Chicago have each a training school for coloured women, and at Hampton, Virginia, also, they are taught in a small hospital.

As to training schools in general, outside of their own, there are but one or two to which they are admitted, the difficulties in the way being sometimes a question of separate accommodation in the school, and sometimes race prejudice. The establishment of separate schools for them is sensible and practical, for it is but fair that those among them who are capable should have every opportunity of advancement professionally or industrially. The whole number graduated yearly is too small to make itself felt seriously, even did they take cases among white people at less than usual rates, and as time goes on there is no reason why they should not learn to conform to standards and to be influenced by organisation.

Among prominent nurses who expect to travel abroad this summer are Miss Draper, formerly of the Royal Victoria, and Miss Darche, of Blackwell's Island. They sail together about the middle of March, Miss Darche making a short trip, while Miss Draper intends spending some time in visiting England and the Continent, and looking into nursing matters generally.

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### Review.

WE have received a copy of the "Medical Annual and Practitioners' Index" for the current year. It contains much useful matter compressed into a readable compass.

The annual aims at placing before its readers all novelties of interest to the medical world, both in the way of remedies and treatment, and the names of the writers of the articles on these subjects are sufficient guarantee of their scientific value. No publication nowadays is complete without some mention of the bicycle, and in the medical annual we find its use advocated as a new remedy in certain forms of spinal disease. A modified handle-bar is used, and it is claimed that the results attained by treating scoliosis with a course of bicycle riding are most satisfactory. Accompanying plates of a particular case before and after treatment support the statement. The review of new inventions, and pharmaceutical and dietetic novelties, profusely illustrated, is excellent, and should keep those who are unable to come to London and to see the latest novelties, well abreast with recent inventions and preparations.

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### Inventions, Preparations, &c.

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#### EXERCISE AT HOME.

VARIOUS inventions have been made in order to provide women, invalids, and that large number of workers who are compelled to lead a more or less sedentary life, with some form of exercise which they can take at home. One of the latest and most rational of these is the mechanical saddle introduced by Miss Chreiman, of 39, York Place, Portman Square. The exercise being analogous to that obtained in horse-riding, possesses very great and beneficial advantages. The Swedish exercises, which are taught and practised at the same establishment under the direction and orders of medical men, are achieving a well-deserved popularity, not only with the medical profession, but also with the public. If any of our readers desire any further information concerning this important and interesting subject, we do not doubt they can obtain it by writing to Miss Chreiman at the address above given.

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#### OVALINE.

THIS name has been given to a new Soap and other toilet preparations which have recently been submitted to us, and to which we have given a careful trial. The basis of all of them is yolk of egg, which is known to contain about 15 per cent. of fat, phosphorus, and albumen. Analysis of the preparations in question shows that these substances are present, and that there is a remarkable absence of the excess of alkali which is found in so many soaps, and which produces such harmful results to those who use them. The Ovaline Soap and Cold Cream are most emollient and comforting, and render the skin soft and supple, and we can cordially recommend them to the notice of our readers as admirably adapted for use in the sick room. Their price is very moderate, and they can be obtained through any chemist, or direct from the Ovaline Soap Company, 145, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., or Messrs. R. Hendrie & Co., 200, Regent Street, W.

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THE fact announced by Mr. James Cantlie that the serum treatment for snake bite has, during the past twelve months, emerged from the stage of scientific curiosity to become a practicable and valuable means of treatment, is one which will be received with the greatest interest by all who live in countries where these venomous reptiles exist.

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