

Preparations, Inventions, etc.

"TINY TIM."

WE have received from Messrs. Davies and Long an electric call bell named "Tiny Tim," which would be a boon to private nurses. It is contained in a box measuring only $6\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, so that it is not a serious addition to one's luggage, while the comfort of it would be great. A nurse, if this "Tiny Tim" were suspended in her room, and the bell within reach of her patient, might leave her in comfort, knowing that she could be summoned immediately if necessary. Many patients prefer to be left alone if the nurse is within calling distance, and with "Tiny Tim" there should be no difficulty about this. The connecting wire, moreover, is long enough to reach a considerable distance. As the price of the bell is only 7s. 6d. to medical practitioners and nurses, it should become very popular.

COMPRESSED SPONGES

The same firm supplies, in cardboard boxes only 2 inches in diameter, sponges which have been compressed into a very small space, but which, when soaked in water, swell out into good-sized sponges. They are sterilized by compression, and hydro-carbon vapours, and would be just the thing for the bag of a district nurse.

BRAND'S NUTRIENT POWDER.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of nurses to this valuable new preparation. It consists of powdered muscle fibre only, from which the moisture has been removed at a temperature below the coagulation point of the muscle proteids. It is sterilised and tasteless, and contains all the constituents of lean meat in an unaltered condition.

One ounce of the Powder is equivalent in nutritive value to four ounces of fresh lean meat.

Its great dietetic importance to Invalids consists in the ease and completeness with which it can be digested, and in the fact that it can be assimilated with a minimum of effort upon the part of the digestive organs.

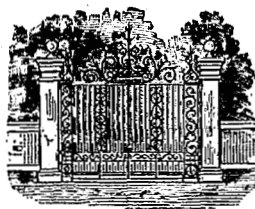
In the process of manufacture nothing is removed except the water of the fresh meat, its taste and odour, and the tough, stringy and indigestible portion rejected in sifting.

One to two ounces taken daily (equivalent to four or eight ounces of fresh lean meat) will suffice for the complete maintenance of the body-weight and healthy functions of an invalid person in a state of convalescence.

It can be obtained from Messrs. Brand and Co., or through any chemist.

Outside the Gates.

"1900."



DESPITE the contention that the new century should not begin till a year after date, there is little doubt that the great majority of publics will only be too delighted to let the moribund sink at once into its grave, depositing with it as much as possible of its accumulated failures, mistakes, and disappointments, with the devout wish that they may never resurrect. "Hope springs immortal in the human breast," and is equally immortal in fallaciousness. Nevertheless, the eager anticipation of an extraordinarily brilliant era to come is well based upon solid facts of discovery and knowledge that are so strange, so indicative of potentialities of immense expansion, unlimited phases and evolutions, that if they were anything less than familiar facts, in daily use and operation, they would be regarded with an incredulity as profound as is the indifference with which they are viewed—as matters stand.

Briefly, the nineteenth century has made a wonderful record; the ends of the earth have been brought together, Possibly the most important factor in the world's progress has been the realisation of the ancient alkymical dream of the transmutation of metals—not of the baser metals into gold, but the transformation of iron into steel—which has literally enabled civilised man to overrun the earth and the sea as well. The world has seen a Stone Age and an Iron Age, the present may well be called the Steel Age. Whatever successes the British Empire may be going on to, it is entirely safe to predict they will only be attained by keeping in line with the advance of science, which surely owes much of its robust development to the fostering it has received from the long and beneficent reign of our beloved Sovereign, under whose sway time has been accorded for patient research, peaceful growth, and no necessity for rash and premature application of half-finished experiment. Looking from our point of vantage on nations that have recently taken the Salic law unto themselves, we may complacently call their attention to what the long reign of a good woman has done for us, and recommend them to desist from their vain and foolish limitations, let the line of succession take its natural course and rely on Fate's lucky bag producing a something similar in due time for them also.

Well, we have caught the elements and pressed them into our service. Time, Space, Distance are no longer of any very great consideration. Even "Chance" has become a negligible quantity. Why, then, doesn't the Millenium arrive? It is to be feared the answer to that conundrum is: "Because we don't want it." The observer of passing events will cynically note that there is nothing the average human being would dislike so much—it would be very poor sport indeed. An enthusiast once hunted a comet, all over the north, but failed to catch it; but, coming to London, retired at night, leaving strict orders to be called up if it became visible. Sure enough, "Bang—bang—bang." "Hulloh; what's the row?" Voices: "Please . . . the comet's come!" Just suppose it had been, "Please Sir—or Madam—the Millenium's come!"

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)