

"We must," thundered out the preacher, "drive from the Church those Christians who eat the sacrament on Sundays and devour the properties of the poor widows on every other day of the week. We want a few John Knoxes and John Wesleys in the Christian Church of to-day. It will not do to have women detained from Sabbath-class because the new hats are not quite ready. And we must condemn churches which send committees to some demonstrative brother to ask him if he won't please say his 'amen' or 'hallelujah' just a little softer. I preach this sermon as a tonic, and want you to hold the sword of truth with such a grip and wield it with such force that it will react."

Accidents to an Imperial Family.

A whole series of unlucky accidents have lately befallen the Austrian imperial family. Just as the Empress Elizabeth was passing on horseback over a small bridge which spans a torrent in the Styrian Alps, near Murzsteg, a plank gave way under her horse's hoof. The animal stumbled and threw his rider over his head. On the very same day, at the same hour, Archduke William, brother of Archduke Albert, while superintending the cavalry exercises at the camp at Bruck, was taken ill, and fell in a dead faint off his horse; and at the same moment the Archduchess Clotilda, wife of Archduke Joseph, who had been to visit a girls' school near Buda-Pesth, having just stepped out of the house, accompanied by the young girls, heard a frightful noise behind her. She turned, and found that the roof of the school-room had just fallen in! What interpretation will superstitious people place upon those coincidences? Ours would be that the Archduchess Clotilda is luckier than her relations.

Death of Marwood.

Marwood, the executioner, died at Hornscastle, England, from congestion of the lungs and jaundice. He was sixty-three years of age and had held his post for twelve years. He leaves a widow, but no son, as has been stated. Some incidents of his life are narrated by a local correspondent who was personally acquainted with Marwood, and who had a long conversation with him shortly before his death. He says: "There were many attempts to get a portrait of Marwood, but he always refused. An enterprising photographer offered him fifty pounds one day for a sitting, but he declined, his explanation being that one of the things he enjoyed more than anything else was to go to a town by an earlier train than he was expected, and mix in the crowd that was waiting his arrival. If his correspondence has been preserved it will be very curious. Quite recently he showed me a sword of a Japanese executioner which had been sent to him by a gentleman from Brighton, and it was certainly of intrinsic value. He had contemplated, he said, putting another storey on his shop, and making a kind of museum, where he could show his friends and neighbors the peculiar things he had collected during his experiences as an executioner. Once only had he an interview with Calcraft, and that was when a party of Americans had asked to be allowed to visit Calcraft. Marwood went with some official to ask Calcraft if he would receive the visitors. He used to declare that previous to the execution in Ireland, when a prisoner's arm caught in the rope, he had never had a slip in his work. With regard to the Durham execution, concerning which he was summoned to the Home Office, immediately after the question had been put in Parliament, he stated that the prisoner fainted at the last moment, and that that was the cause

of the rope's catching in his arm, and he was particularly careful to mention that at the inquest and satisfactorily cleared himself. His opinion was that in all future executions a warder should stand on each side of the prisoner, on a plank extending over the drop, and the loose portion of the rope be tied up to the beam by a slight cord, which should give way by the weight of the body, and he declared that he should never undertake an execution again without these precautions being adopted. Many of his Irish experiences were a source of great amusement to him. An escort used to meet him at Chester and accompany him across the Channel. After some of the early executions connected with the Phoenix Park assassinations, Marwood had to proceed to Glasgow, and he related how an escort which was to accompany him were disappointed when they found that he declined their company, and intended to move about England without any protection whatever. It was at Glasgow, while he was preparing the prisoners on the scaffold, that a letter was received by the Governor of the jail which might have been a respite. The Governor signalled to Marwood while he read the letter, which proved to be on other business. Marwood received very few threatening letters."—*London Standard*.

City of Mexico.

New comers in the city of Mexico are surprised on finding so many of the conveniences common to large cities at home, such as the telephone, the electric light, a police force, and an excellent street car service. The electric lights are on the tops of iron rods running up from the gas-lamp posts. The police are far more soldierly than the regular army of the country. They wear a blue flannel suit, the coat buttoned up, and their cap has a covering of white, which, with the standing linen collar, is always immaculate. In their belts on one side they carry a club and on the other a large revolver. If one wishes to see a policeman he has only to go to the nearest corner, and he will surely find him standing there, for he has no beat to walk over. The speed at which street cars go is astonishing. They dash along as fast as mules can pull them, and as they approach a corner the driver gives a loud toot on a horn for the purpose of warning people at the crossing to get out of the way.

Jack of All Trades.

Charles B. King, of 66 Charter Oak street may be said to be the most multifarious tradesman in the State of Connecticut, having mastered no less than twenty-two distinct trades, and being, what is still more strange, a first-class workman in every one of them. He is not yet seventy years old and is vigorous and hale and is able to do a man's work any day. Here are the vocations he has learned: Blacksmith, house-carpenter, cabinet maker, ship-joiner, ship-carpenter, glass cutting and grinding, shoe making, harness making, wheelwright, iron machinist, wood machinist, mathematical instrument making, wood carving, pattern making, clock making, cooper, carriage maker, gardener and florist, moulder, patent-office model maker, plumbing, and locksmith. He is a genius in mechanics, and ascribes his ease in learning trades to "an accurate eye and a mechanical head." In addition to all the above-named useful vocations may be added the fact that Mr. King is a good musician and one of the best rifle shots.—*Hartford Times*.