THE STANDARD.

VOL. VI--NO. 59. CONCORD, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1895. WHOLE NO. 359

A HALT CALLED.

The Populists at Their Caucus Last Night Determined to Fight the Republicans From Now On.

The Populist caucus met last night in the Senate chamber and a gun went off. They said we want it understood we are Populists, and notice was served upon the Republicans.

To enumerate the proceedings without fail, it was determined to introduce a new bill looking to the aid of the Confederate monument, to defeat the proposed bill for the new criminal district, leaving New Hanover and Mecklenburg undisturbed; "to take out the objectionable features" from the Election bill; to fight the county government bill, until cumulation should be recognized in allowing two persons to be appointed of the opposite political party to the other three commissioners, so as to insure safety against the negroes in the East; to kill both the Shaffer and Young Raleigh charter bills; to oppose the changing of any more charters, leaving Wilmington and Elizabeth City the only ones changed; to assert the individuality of the Populist party and to resist further swallowing up their hitberto Jonah organization by the Republican whale. The kick was lofty and complete, knocking over the milk and leaving the can high in the air. There must be rest for the wicked, unless the wicked one be an old sinner of the Lusk stripe. They don't need rest; their dwelling place in iniquity; but the Pops. are calling a rest, and last night sounded the first long, song note.—Raleigh Observer.

Death of Mrs. Rev. Dr. J. B. Davis.

After a short illness, Mrs. Anna Caroline Davis, wife of the venerable Rev. J B Davis, D. D, departed this life rather suddenly in Salem, Virginia, February 22, 1895, in her sixty-eighth year. She was a Miss Mary Siez, of Churchville, Augusta county, Va. She was buried in the Salem cemetery on Sunday afternoon, the services being conducted by Rev. C Armond Miller. She leaves a husband and six children—five sons and a daughter. Two of her children reside in Salem, namely, Mr. Paul S Davis, cashier Bank of Salem; and Marie, wife of Frank H Chalmers, vice-president of the Farmers' National Bank. Her son Jefferson came on from West Liberty, Ohio, to attend the funeral. To the family we extend warmest sympathy in their sore bereavement. —New Market Church Paper.

[Nearly everybody in Cabarrus county will remember Dr. J B Davis, who has lectured over the county, and who use to live in Mt. Pleasant. Mrs. Davis' many friends will regret to hear of her death, as above stated.]

Got Away Again.

Avery Butler, the young white convict who some time ago waylaid and assassinated his father at Clinton, Sampson county, and was sent to the penitentiary for life, is again at large. Not many months ago he escaped, but committed a crime in Catawba county, was arrested there and returned here. It appears that he got away yesterday for the second time. In some way he got possession of a suit of citizen's clothing, put it on and deceived the guard, so that the latter went away, having been told by Butler, whom he did not know, that one of the officials wanted to see him. Butler dropped a key to two convicts below who were in the plot with him and with this key they opened the door and all three got away. The other two convicts were 30 year men. The search for them all began promptly. Butler, who is about 21, is a very hardened criminal.—Raleigh Letter.

We Had Company.

Our neighbor on the north, the Salisbury Herald, takes us to task about saying the Standard was the first paper in the State to publish the account of the Lexington shooting scrape. The Herald had a telegraphic report and several other papers had some news of it. We should have said our paper got around before any other. It was in the hands of our local patronage (few borrowers excepted) long before sundown. And our neighbor stated that it was late and it was the only one having a full, correct account, so we naturally concluded that the Standard was first to the breeze.

A Horse for a Knife.

The boss horse trade of the season was made here Friday evening. A boy from the country brought a sorry looking specimen of a pony to town and traded the animal to Dick Kinion for a 30 cent pocket-knife. Dick says he is going to rub that critter up and make something out of him.—Greenville Reflector.

HOUSE ROBBED IN NO. 3.

More Than One Hundred Pennies Taken at One Haul.

The house of Mr. Jim Brown, who lives in No. 3 township, was entered and robbed some time last Tuesday by one, Espey Poteete, a neighbor to Mr. Brown.

Poteete got quite a nice haul of pennies, having found more than a hundred, besides several pieces of silver.

It is said that Poteete had, some time ago, stolen a pistol from Mr. Milas Beaver, of the same section, and pawned it to Mr. Brown, but when Poteete was rumaging through the house of Mr. Brown he reclaimed the pistol with the "brownies."

Mr. Brainard Smith was deputized to fetch Poteete to town, and had gotten within a mile or two of the city, when the criminal leaped from the vehicle and took leg bail for sweet liberty. He was, the last heard from, in Rowan county, still going.

Deputy Hill went for his man Wednesday, but having no warrant from Rowan, he could not arrest Poteete.

Business Transfers.

Mr. Henry L Propst, who has done a successful grocery business in the old Propst store room on Main street for a year or more, this (Thursday) morning transferred his stock and good will to Mr. J W Foil, who is well known to our citizens as a clever gentleman and good grocer. We wish him success.

Mr. James Willeford, who occupied a window in the same store room, has taken a space in the store room af Mr. John K Patterson, where he moved his bench and is tinkering on time.

Same Way Here.

That some people want to be seen and display themselves, vainly making believe they are the cream of the land, is evidenced by this from the Greensboro Record:

"If an entertainment were advertised to open at 12 o'clock (midnight) some people would be late. Last night that concert at Bogart's Hall was advertised to open at 9 p. m.; yet people were straggling in until 9:30. If, when Gabriel blows his trumphet he don't make a big allowance, some people will be left."

A Rogue Caught.

Wednesday night at China Grove while Mr. Frank L Robbins was in attendance at a sociable a sneak-thief entered the house wherein the gallent men and maiden were installed and took from the hall the ever coat and hat belonging to Mr. Robbins.

The thief went to the cotton mills and tackled the engineer for a trade. The man in charge recognized the property the thief was offering for sale, and forthwith closed the bargain. Not having the required amount of change, the engineer left the tramp with his engine while he went for his cash. Very much to the surprise of the tramp, a constable put in his appearance arrested the man and Thursday morning took him to Salisbury jail.

Marriage License For February.

WHITES.

C R Tucker and Laura Webb.
J W Litaker and Maggie Ashby.
John T Kirk and Mary F Scarborc.
Wm. B McAnulty and Jennie Sos amon.
T B Eudy and Mollie J Moose.
Thos. H Reinhardt and Lottie M Fisher.
Elwood M Fowler rnd Maggie Carter.
W Frank Blackwelder and Elizabeth Culp.

BLACKS.

Jonas M Miller and Hattie Propst.
James King and Lydia Spears.

Chinaman and Jewess Married.

Atlanta, Ga., February 17.—Joe Lee, a Chinaman, and Eila Moses, a pretty young Jewess, were married here today. The ceremony was performed by Judge Bloodworth.

The groom wanted the ceremony performed in open court, but the bride objected because of the crowd of curious spectators. So they substituted the groom's laundry for the temple of justice, and the ceremony was duly performed. None of the bride's family were in attendance and no Chinamen were present.

Joe Lee states that since he cut off his queue two weeks ago his fellowcountrymen have cut him. Lee and his bride have been sweethearts for a long time, but it was only recently that she consented to marry him.

North Carolina Patents, February 26

William H Kerr, Concord, assignor to Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, Durham, bag machine. J E McLean, Salisbury, culinary [illegible] or apparatus. Stephen O [illegible]n, Raleigh, vehicle axle.

THE DOUGLASITES.

Here Are the Representatives That Honor the Mulatto.

Below we give the names of those who voted to adjourn out of respect to the memory of Fred Douglass, the negro who married a white woman. Yet they did not see enough in Washington and Lee. They are:

Abbott,	Aiken,
Alexander, Tyrell,	Bagwell,
Bateman,	Bean,
Brown,	Bryant,
Buchanan,	Burnham,
Campbell,	Cheek,
Chilcutt,	Cox,
Crews,	Croom,
Crumpler,	Crumel,
Currie,	Darden,
Davis,	Dixon,
Drew,	Duncan,
Ellege,	Ellis,
Ewart,	Flack,
French,	Gentry,
Harris, of Gaston;	Harris, (Hyde)
Henderson,	Hileman,
Hopkins,	Huffman,
Hunter,	Johnson,
Keathley,	Leary,
Leinbach,	Linney,
Lusk,	Mayes,
McCauley.	McKinney,
McLean,	McLeod,
Michael,	Mitchell,
Morrow,	Norman,
Norment,	Peace,
Petree,	Phillips, (Pitt)
Phillips, Raldolph	Pool,
Reynolds,	Self,
Smith, (Caswell)	Smith, Cley'nd
Smith, (Robinson)	Spena,
Squires,	Stikeleather,
Strictland,	Sutton,
Taylor,	Turner, Mitchell
Tuckner, (Polk)	Vickers,
Walker,	Walser,
White,	Whitener,
Williams.	Wooten,
Yates,	Young,

Not a Democrat in the whole outfit.

New Trustees for the University.

The following are agreed upon as the new trustees on the State University board of trustees to fill vacancies this year: Democrats: John W Graham, R B Peebles, M E Carter, W H S Burgwyn, Francis D Winston, A B Gorrell. Republicans: Abram Alexander, Thos. F Floyd, Z V Walser, E A White, Charles A Cook, Spencer Blackburn, James E Boyd, James M Moody, Virgil S Lusk, D A White, D L Russell. Popalists: Cyrus Thompson, J T B Hoover, John F Hogan, S Otho Wilson, Harry Skinner, J B Lloyd, W E White, W A Guthrie.

Suit Ended at Last.

The follawing interesting item we get from our esteemed exchange, Stanly News:

Over ten years ago the board of county commissioners of this county advertised for sale the public square in Albemarle, but the owners of lots adjacent to the square enjoined the sale and the case has been pending in court ever since until last week when judgment was obtained dissolving the injunction and authorizing the sale. The News would suggest that the lots on the square ought to be sold at once and the proceeds taken to build a new jail.

Some Georgia Nuggets.

You're not alone in your misery when the cow kicks the milk over. You can sympathize with the calf then.

This world is full 'o sunshine; but nine men out 'o ten spend half their days huntin' for tallow candles.

When the tree falls on your house, and you come out all right, jerk your coat, chop it up and sell it for firewood.

If there was a free railroad train from this world to Heaven, you'd find hundreds of men so down on the excursion business that you couldn't get 'em to board it.

If the good Lord was to make the world over to suit the people in it, it would be such a jumble that it would take a hundred years to recognize it.—Atlanta Constitution.

The "Boss" Gourd.

The Salisbury Herald says: Mr. B F Weant has neither big hogs nor fat geese to talk about, but he claims to have the champion gourd. This gourd is four feet eight inches in circumference and holds twelve gallons and a quart of water. Mrs Weant has taken charge of the gourd and uses it as a "tub" for rinsing clothes. Mr. Weant wants to know who can beat him on gourds and so does the Herald.

Fife to be a Journalist.

The Lexington Dispatch says: It is said that Evangelist W P Fife, a native of our county, will son associate himself with Evangelist Jenkins, of Winston, in the publication of a non-sectarian religious journal.

Mr. J T Isenhour, of No. 11, who has been in Texas and Arkansas for several years and who returned to this county last December, has gone to Illinois.

TOWN AND COUNTY.

Esq. D W Turner, of Smith's Ford, spent Wednesday night in the city.

The distillery of J T Harrison of Rowan county, was seized Wednesday.

A fire damaged the Catholic church of Salisbury, Wednesday, to a loss of about $300.

Mr. John A Kimmons who was spending a while in Wilmington visiting friends is at home.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush is especially true of that golden prize, the United States eagle.

Wednesday night in the Lutheran church of Salisbury, by Rev. C B King, Dr. R L Ramsay and Miss Lena Thompson were married.

Uncle Martin Rosenstihl, of No. 4, was in town. He can make a pocket knife that looks better and cuts better than a barlow knife.

Charlie Hardie, a fireman on the Southern railroad, stole Miss Eve Peay away from her home at Burlington last Sunday and were married.

The workmen are all done with placing the machinery and shafting at the Cabarrus Mill, and every piece is working swiftly and smoothly.

Northern capitalists have recently made several propisitions to property owners around Glasses, with a view to purchasing for the purpose of building cotton mills.

We have heard men preach on many things before, but Wednesday is the first time we ever heard a man preach on horse back. He is a crank that struck town.

The Empress Dowager, of China, is studying the bible recently presented to her, and has got another copy for her son, who is deeply interested in the troubles of Job.

The young man who boasts that he works with his head instead of his hands is respectfully reminded that the woodpecker does the same, and is the biggest kind of a bore at it.

So many Congressmen will retire this session they can't shake the dust of Washington off their feet. Their farewell tears will turn the dust to something whose name is mud.

Mr. Lusk's bill to regulate railroad passenger rates makes the first class fare 2 cents per mile, second class 1½ cents, children under twelve half these rates. Penalty for violation of this act.

Populist Senator Franck, of Onslow, died in Raleigh Wednesday, of pneumonia. He was 38 years of age. He was the biggest member, weighing 308 pounds. This makes the second death.

One of the most earnest advocates of tobacco as an indulgence of value in the case of the sick and convalescent, under certain conditions, is Dr. Ludwig Jankan, the eminent physician of Munich.

The negro boys who were frightened so badly Tuesday while escorting Maggie Brewer home, who lives a few miles above town, are named John Gibson and Jim Pickens. The former works in Carter's barber shop at Forest Hill.

Only a few pairs of license were issued during February and three came in on the 27th. The fear that the blackberry crop would be a failure, owing to the much cold weather during February, accounts for the small number that was willing to risk matrimony.

Mr. W Brantley, an electrician from Atlanta, fell from a ladder in the Lucy Cobb Institute at Athens, Georgia, yesterday morning and broke his arm. His arm was broken in the attempt to keep the falling ladder from hurting a young lady who was near by playing on a piano.

Gov. Carr has remitted the fines of $75 each imposed on Messrs. M F Furr, A L Morton and Caleb Green for shooting Duncan T Tucker some time ago. Their application to have these fines remitted was signed by Judge Boykin, who imposed the sentence, and by solicitor Webb.—Stanly News.

Able council have been retained by Dr. R L Payne, Jr., to prosecute Mr. Shemwell in the courts, viz: Jas. E Boyd, of Greensboro; B F Long, of Statesville, and S. E. Williams, of the local bar. The defendant will have C B Watson, of Winston, R Z Linney, of Taylorsville; Robbins & Raper, and Pickens & Welser, of the local bar.

March!

Ice cream is always nice.

Greensboro as well as Charlotte gave the Dewey Heywood Concert Company a black eye.

Senator William Moody of this district was an honorary escort of the remains of Senator Franck to Onslow county.

March came in a little blustery Now will it go out a little like lamb and a little like lion—a kind of fusion, you know.

The Miller Opera Company, which had an engagement here next week, will not appear. The Company closed for the season at Danville.

The condition of Justice Howell E Jackson has changed for the better, and his family hope he will soon be able to resume his place on the bench.

Master Henry Ringstag, of this place sends us a chicken with four legs and four wings. The freak lived a very short while.—Monroe Enquirer.

Mr. Baxter Moore, a prominent citizen of Mecklenburg, died Wednesday night. It was sudden, an hour before he felt perfectly well. His age was 62 years of age.

Baseball umpires for the coming season are: McDonald, Keefe, Lynch, McQuade, Emelie and Betts. Hurst was not appointed. Fred Pfeffer's disabilities were removed, and he is assigned to the Louisville club for 1895.

The Wilmington Messenger says: The white folks in south Carolina are trying to get together. In union there is strength. In division there is Tillmanism and Butlerism and Otho Wilksonism and Luskism and other abominations.

February Marched right out as calm as could be and April May come sometime before June if July doesn't make its August appearance and make things too hot for us in September to color the leaves in the [illegible] month of October.

Caps Cruse, a colored man [illegible] 5 township, had a warrent taken [illegible] for his poor old father, John Cruse, on Thursday for drawing a razor on him and threatening to cut him. Deputy Cruse served the warrent, but upon non-appearance of the son the father was released.

Count Bon de Castellane, who is to marry Miss Anna Gould, Monday next, had quite an experience with a cab in New York Wednesday afternoon. The horse stumbled and fell throwing him out and bruising him considerably, besides tearing his trousers on the knee.

The murder trial of Tom Covington, which was held at Newton, fills 12 columns in the Newton Enterprise. It is, in its entirety, the work of Master Robert K Williams, a youth not yet 12 years old. It is the fleest piece of work by a boy we ever saw. Editor Williams ought to be proud of his boy.

While at his mother's sale in Lancaster county last week Dr. S J Welsh, of this place, purchased some very valuable family heirlooms, among them is a very fine quilt that Mrs. Welsh picked up in her yard after Sherman's raid and a lot of fine chinaware that had been in Mrs. Welsh's possession for sixty years and has been handed down from mother to daughter for more than a century.—Monroe Enquirer.

A man, a very shrewd man, was on the streets Thursday and today endeavoring to trade watches with nearly every man he would meet. The man possessed an old time-worn watch, the case of which was pewter, that he wanted to trade to Dr. Archey for his elegant gold one. The trade could not be affected, however, as the unknown man wanted too much "boot." This freak that has struck the city wears a red ribbon on his coat and a blue card with red tassel on his hat.

Was it the Dummy Line

About 11 o'clock the little son of Mr. Chas. Sherwood was driving a double team to a grain drill, going from town to his home a few miles above town and when in front of Mrs. J S Fisher's, on Main street, the horses became frightened, rearing and running, turning the drill up side down and breaking it all to pieces.

It was almost a miracle that the child was not instantly killed. The little fellow swung to the reins and after running and draging behind the furious animals for some distance he got them under control.

The question now arises, was it the dummy line that caused the trouble?

"ONLY A TRAMP."

He Floods the Town With Obscene Pictures—Six Men Lose Their Positions.

Thursday a tramp struck town.

He was an artist, so to speak, and flooded the town with vulgar, obscene pictures.

Not only did he paint and sell his "beauties" in the heart of the city, but took in the North and West ends. Nearly every boy in the city has purchased or seen one. He retailed his pictured vice at 5 cents a copy, meeting with ready sales wherever he went.

Down at the bleachery six men, so far as known, were beguiled into purchasing some of the shameful stuff, and when discovered by the foremen, Mr. W A Stone, they were fired out withiout warning.

THEY'RE AFTER HIM.

Ed. McCombs, a Negro Thief, Who Made Bold to Rob Mr. Graber's Money Drawer.

For some time a sloven and very trifling, tall, lean, lank negro has been loafing around town in idleness, now and then doing an odd job, and right recently he has made headquarters about Graber's meat market. When Mr. Graber would leave his market with his trustworthy assistant, little Tommie Hopkins, the negro would invariably creep in behind the counter and offer to assist Tommie in making some little trick.

In this way he would disengage Tommie's watchful eye and take his chances on the money drawer, which is very convenient.

Several times Mr. Graber has missed money from the drawer, and no longer than yesterday more than a dollar was taken.

This morning, very early, when Mr. Graber went to his breakfast the negro put in his appearance as usual and helped himself to the contents of the drawer, which amounted to about $1.25.

When Mr. Graber returned he missed his money and suspicion was at once upon this conspicuous personage, Ed McCombs.

The police were notified and put on to it, but not in time to save them a long, hot chase. As soon as the negro saw the officers advancing towards him he broke to run, and the last seen of them, officers, thief and all, they went "burning the wind" down the Southern railroad, the negro in the lead.

Policeman Boger being so fat he could not run, returned to the depot in time to catch the 11:15 train and went to Harrisburg, where he will no doubt catch the villian.

Tommie and another boy found a purse that had been put away by the negro under the cabinet shop of Mr. Caster, containing $1.85, which is in the possession of Mr. Graber.

GOT A HEAD LIKE A TACK.

"It seems to me," he said to her,
"That Lent must surely lag,
For when amusements all are gone,
The time, I know must drag."

"There you are wrong, she made reply
"To say the days pass slow,
For during all the whole of Lent
Its fast time, don't you know."

THE LEXINGTON CASE

Excitement is Not so Great and Things Are Quieting Down—To be Tried Next Court.

The funeral of Dr. R L Payne took place today in Lexington. His daughter, Mrs. Dr. Breckwith, of Pennsylvania, came in this morning on the Florida Special and took the local train at 8:45.

C B Watson, of Winston, who is engaged as counsel for the defendant, came back this morning at 10:15. He talked to a Record-man for a few minutes and while he of course, declined to say what the line of defense would be, he said enough to show exactly what course they will pursue.

He said: "We shall contend, and feel that we can show, that our man (Shemwell) is guilty of nothing in the world—not one single thing."

This means that self-defense will be the plea; that Shemwell was on on his way home, the Paynes, Sr. and his son, being in front of him; that suddenly Dr. Payne, Sr., turned towards him; thinking that his life was in danger and that father and son intended to kill him, Shlemw fired to save his own life.

Watch and see if this is not the case to a dot.

Mr. Watson, being asked if he intended to try the case in Davidson county, replied: "We don't want it tried anywhere else; we should object if it was contemplated to try it elsewhere. [illegible] court, week [illegible] sist on going to trial. [illegible] of course, well-known throughout the county. So is our client and we have nothing to fear."

There are of course two sides to every case. So far Shemwell refuses to talk and Mr. Watson says his mouth will remain closed, of course.

Let him get in the newspapers and he will be executed in short order. —Greensboro Record.

Miss Catherine Harkey Dead.

This aged mother departed this life on the 20th inst, at the residence of her eldest living daughter, Mrs Catherine McDaniel, at the ripe old age of 93 years and 11 days, having been born Oct. 9th, 1801. What wonderful event, changes in all the conditions of life have occurred in all those years. Born in the infancy of the American Republic she has been a witness of its proud position she now occupies as among the first on the roll of nations. Old enough at the period of the second struggle with Great Britain to remember the stirring events connected with it. She has witnessed its phenomenal rise and successful overthrow of every obstacle. Indeed, the changes, vicisitudes and dangers this old mother has witnessed and passed through would fill a goodly sized volume alone. She has six children living—W J Harkey, aged 79; Catharine, 65; Riley Harkey, 62; I M Harkey, 59; Mary Armentrout, 56, and Adaline Trobridge, 52. She has grandchildren living 65; great grand children 205, and great great grand children 11, making a total of her decendants of 287 now living. Mrs Harkey retained her physical vigor to a wonderful degree up to about 2 years ago, when she was crippled by an accident, before which she was able to walk the distance of a mile without assistance from others. Her numerous descendants in this county, both male and female, are noted for their fine, robust physiques, energy and thrift.

The dear old mother has put on mortality with all its accompanying trials and sorrows, to put on immorality in the presence of him who said "Come unto me all ye weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest."—San Saba (Texas) News.

[Mrs. Harkey was a native of Cabarrus county and a distant relative of Mrs. B F Rogers, of our town.

A Lenten Temptation.

Now social gayetics are o'er,
The Lenten season's here;
Nor tripping feet, nor music more,
In pleasure's halls you'll hear.

So women fair will lay aside
Her silks and satins rare,
While jewels will no more abide,
Or glitter in her hair.

For forty days her mind must turn
Away from worldly strife,
Her soul for holier things must yearn
Than those of earthly life.

Alas, there's Easter just ahead,
Her mind must be upon it:
And then her hapless thoughts are led
To that new Easter bonnet!

Picked Up at Random.

A Maltese cat is being sent around the world without a cent.

The Mardi Gras festivities at New Orleans are being held amid delightful weather. The city is full of strangers.

A number of departments in the Carnegie Steel Works were closed down yesterday and 1,500 employes thrown out of work. Scarcity of orders.

The Methodist Episcopal church South has ordered the withdrawal of members from the Christian Endeavor Societies in order to boom the Epworth Leagues.

John Nowhock, of Buffalo, gave his wife to Stanislaus Balkus two years ago as security for a debt of $200, went West to earn money to redeem his spouse and hasn't been heard from since.

She Jumped in the Well.

A gentleman who was at Kernersville yesterday tells The Record that Mrs. Alla Ingram, residing about two miles in the country, was missed Sunday morning some time after breakfast.

She b[illegible] somewhat demented [illegible]d the worst was [illegible]hing around the [illegible] some [illegible] down and there [illegible] to the rope for dear life.

Another rope was secured and lowered down to her which she secured around her waist and was drawn to the top. She refused to say how she got to the bottom, though it is said she evidently went down by means of the rope for she was not bruised or injured in any way, though she said the water was too cold for her.

The well was thirty feet deep.—Greensboro Record.

The Pastors Wife Held Services.

Beaver Falls, Penn., Feb. 26.—Rev. George Turbush, pastor of the Episcopal church here, was taken suddenly ill Sunday and was unable to attend the evening service. His plucky wife determined that the congregation should not be disappointed. So she conducted the services herself. Unable to prepare a sermon, she read the next thing, and read one of Talmage's. The congregation was surprised, but delighted.