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1-15-1872

A Letter from Albertus C. Van Raalte to Julia G. Gilmore

A. C. Van Raalte

Erica D. Heeg

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January 15, 1872

Holland, Mich[igan]

A letter from Albertus C. Van Raalte to Julia G. Gilmore, his future daughter-in-law. He states his joy that she is to become a member of the family. Mrs. Van Raalte thinks highly of her as well. Possibly, VR had just heard that she and his son, Ben, were to be married. They were married on November 27.

VR begins the letter as follows: "Though I am just overcrowded with meetings etc. etc. and I hate to write you in such a hurry, yet this morning is a joyous moment for me, and I want to express my joy in the prospect of possessing you as my daughter, and [sic] well as the wife of my dear beloved son Ben."

Julia was born in Fairview, Illinois, and was a sister of William B. Gilmore, who was married to Christine Van Raalte.

Original in the archives of the Holland Historical Trust, the Join Archives of Holland at Hope College, T88-0230.

Holland Mich:
Jan: 15/1872.

Miss Julia G. Gilmore.

Dear Friend,

Though I am just overcrowded with meetings etc. etc. and I hate to write in such a hurry, yet this moment is a joyous moment for me, and I want to express my joy in the prospect of me possessing you as my daughter, and well as the wife of my dear Son Ben: You were beloved of my wife from the first beginning and She spoke often about you with much delight remembering your kindness during her short stay at the house of your dear parents. I assure you that it would have Caused to mother a great joy to call you her daughter because she did love you.

May the Lord bless you together and give you a blessed Union, for Which both of you may thank the Lord not only as a precious earthly gift but also as a blessing for anothers soul. In that prospect and hope, your union is an especial cause of thanks in my heart. Surely you both have my blessing.—

I esteem very high the gift of married life: I rejoice to see this blessing coming down upon my beloved Son, and especially now He gets from the Lord a noble praying wife: it is a precious gift not to be compared with any other temporal blessing.

therefore be assured of my blessing love and joy.—

Your affectionate friend
A.C. Van Raalte

Transcribed by Erica D. Heeg
October 3, 2003

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Collection of Cindy Merwin,
Beaverville, IA



Holland Mich;
Jan: 15 / 1872.
My Julia of Gilmore.

Dear Friend
Thoughts
am just over crowded, with meeting
et. etc. and I hate to write you
in such a hurry, yet this morning
is a joyous moment for me,
and I want to express my
joy in the prospect of you
to possess ^{my} my daughter, and
well as the wife of my dear
beloved son Ben: You were
beloved of my wife from the
first beginning and she spoke
often about you with much
delight, remembering your
kindness

during her short stay at
the house of your dear parents.

I assure you that it would
have been a great joy to call you
her daughter because she
did love you.

May the Lord bless you
together and give you a
blessed union, for which
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I esteem very much the gift
of married life: I rejoice to
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this blessing coming down
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Therefore be assured of my
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Your affectionate Friend
A. Van Haulte.

T 88-0230

Holland Museum Collection
at the
Joint Archives of Holland

Holland Mich;
Jan: 15 / 1872.
My Julia G Gilmore.

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Holland Mich;
Jan: 15 / 1872.
My Julia G Gilmore.

Dear Friend

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I assure you that it would
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very great joy to call you
her daughter because she
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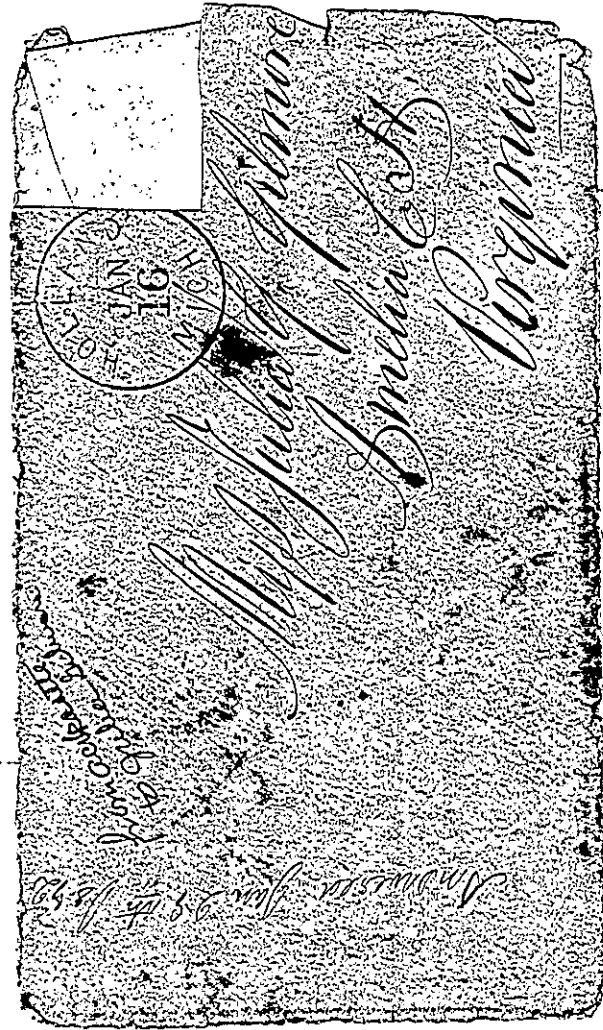
May the Lord bless you
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Collection of Cindy Merwin,
Newark, CA



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Jan: 15/1872.
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I assure you that it would
have been a joy to mother a
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