

Hope College

Hope College Digital Commons

Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859

Van Raalte Papers

9-14-1859

Printed Flyer Asking for Donations

Isaac N. Wyckoff

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s

The original documents are held in the Holland Museum. This digitized material is intended for personal research/study only. The original documents may not be reproduced for commercial use in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without permission in writing from the [Holland Museum](#).

Recommended Citation

Wyckoff, Isaac N., "Printed Flyer Asking for Donations" (1859). *Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859*. 135. https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1850s/135

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Van Raalte Papers at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Van Raalte Papers: 1850-1859 by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.

September 14, 1859

Albany, [New York]

A printed flyer asking potential donors to loan money to the Holland colonists in order to complete the harbor project in the amount of \$2,000. \$9000 has already been raised. The state government has already assigned a tract of land to support the project. The list of six men whose names appear at the bottom of the document is headed by the name of Isaac N. Wyckoff, pastor of Second Reformed Church. It is likely that he wrote the materials.

“The object is one of great and vital moment to these industrious and enterprising people; nor is it less so to ourselves, if we desire to extend and perpetuate the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in the United States.”

“When this matter is considered, in relation to the prosperity and advancement of the religious denomination to which we belong, it assumes more than ordinary consequence. Here are four townships settled exclusively by Hollanders with a population of *seven thousand*, forming some *eight or nine* congregations in communion with our own ecclesiastical organization, whose piety, religious enterprize and influence are already felt and appreciated th[r]oughout the Church. They have founded a city, destined, at no distant day, to occupy a prominent position among the great cities of the west; forming a nucleus from whence, in time, hundreds of Dutch Churches will spring and spread themselves far and wide over those vast regions.”

“Mr. Roost, the Supervisor of the township of Holland, is now in this city, . . .” and will be at a meeting in the North Dutch Church on Friday, the 16th instant. [?]

The original is in the archives of the Holland Historical Trust, Joint Archives of Holland, Hope College, T88-0230.

788-0230

ALBANY, 14th SEPTEMBER, 1859.

The Holland Colonists in the State of Michigan, are engaged in constructing a Harbor at their principal settlement on the east shore of Lake Michigan, where peculiar natural facilities exist for the formation of the best Haven on that large inland sea. They have obtained from the State Government a grant of a large tract of land in aid of the design, and also, by legislative enactment, authority to negotiate a loan of money, secured by a lien on the taxable real and personal property of part of the counties of Allegan and Ottawa in that State, in order to consummate the object.

The work has rapidly progressed during the past and present seasons, and the Colonists are now desirous of completing the loan, of which about \$9000 has been obtained and but \$2000 remains untaken. The object is one of great and vital moment to these industrious and enterprising people; nor is it less so to ourselves, if we desire to extend and perpetuate the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in the United States. They appeal to us, as being of the same lineage with themselves, to aid them. They ask no gift or donation, but simply a loan of money, small in amount to us, but quite large to them, for the repayment of which, both principal and interest, they pledge ample and undoubted security. The Loan proposed, is in the shape of 7 per cent Coupon Bonds of \$100 each payable at the Bank of New York in that city. As Money Brokers expect a profit in such transactions, and as the Colonists are restricted by law from selling their Bonds below par, the stock market is shut to them, and, therefore, what they need must be obtained from private individuals.

When this matter is considered, in relation to the prosperity and advancement of the religious denomination to which we belong, it assumes more than ordinary consequence. Here are four townships settled exclusively by Hollanders with a population of *seven thousand*, forming some *eight or nine* congregations in communion with our own ecclesiastical organization, whose piety, religious enterprize and influence are ~~already felt and appreciated~~ throughout the Church. They have founded a city, destined, at no distant day, to occupy a prominent position among the great cities of the west; forming a nucleus from whence, in time, hundreds of Dutch Churches will spring and spread themselves far and wide over those vast regions. If the increase and extension of the Dutch Church in the west is a desirable object, as it undoubtedly is, this mode of effecting it is certainly the best, the wisest and the cheapest, and will be more efficient than any other plan that has yet been devised.

The large and populous cities of Chicago and Milwaukie, with others of less note, occupy the western shore of Lake Michigan. On the eastern, or opposite coast, along an extent of three hundred miles, not a Haven like this can be found. Here nature has provided a magnificent bay, of a capacity and depth in which the navies of the world might float securely, and here our sagacious countrymen and co-religionists have planted their future Capital—the city of Holland. All they need, is, the means to connect this splended sheet of still, deep water, by an adequate channel with *their* Mediterranean—the Lake of Michigan. If this be done, the city of Holland will possess the best Harbor, on the Lake. It will at once rise to great commercial importance, and as an inevitable effect will in time become the head quarters of the Dutch Church in the western states. These speculations are not visionary. The time will arrive when they will prove sober realities. It is for us here, *now*, by a little temporary aid, which will cost us nothing, to hasten and accelerate such results.

Mr Roost, the Supervisor of the township of Holland, is now in this city, and (with other gentlemen conversant with the matter) is desirous of explaining to you, the situation and details of the enterprize. You are therefore respectfully invited to attend a Meeting, for that purpose, in the Chapel of the North Dutch Church, on Friday, the 16th instant, at 3½ o' k in the afternoon.

I. N. WYCKOFF,
E. P. ROGERS,
ALEXANDER DICKSON,
WILLIAM C. MILLER,
GERRIT Y. LANSING,
JACOB H. TEN EYCK