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Letter from A. C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps

A. C. Van Raalte

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December 1, 1859

No. 9

A letter of A. C. Van Raalte, writing from Kingston, New York, to Philip Phelps, reporting on his fund-raising efforts. His long trip East is a concern to his wife because of his long absence. He stopped in New Brunswick and met some of the Academy graduates.

Original in the Archives of Hope College.

Viney Stow Dec. 1. 1859.

Dear Brother.

I thank you for your kind letter. but I hope you will do better in the future and write me oftener. Do I am getting sympathy as you say enough, but you are mistaken. What would be life without sympathy. Sympathy is an immense powerful influence: let us foster it, let us enjoy it: -

I am looking with anxiety after your answer about my question which I wrote you. - Now there are \$100. subscribers. - In the beginning of the week Mr. Porter did hand me the half printed Intelligence, to read that part of the article The Board Academy, and that made me write a hasty reply, which I would have done somewhat in another manner if I had read the whole. - This may be my excuse for saying nothing more in behalf of the teachers and western churches. I pray you keep cool and do not write any more P.D.W. - it would do only harm. - Which says I did not write it and it is not his doing: but my writing against the letters and collections about our famine has caused feelings against me in several quarters. - It will not do any permanent harm. The leading men love the institution too well. - It is not a pleasant thing to me, a begging man really has already burden enough to bear: but it does not move me. - Now I will be induced to stay some days or weeks in January after that I must attend to my taxes and come at home. Now I wish you to do your utmost to convince my wife about

the necessity of my staying so long: I pray you convince
her, and if her mind is quiet I shall feel relieved very much:
I feel that this bitter piece will do a great deal mischief
in my family: and also in ^{our} own churches: because
they will feel the ^{accusation} keenly; of having fawningly cleared
the plan to begin a School: and to play that School in the hands
of the Synod: The emigration churches were waked up to that
they were too suspicious, they rather thought Van Kleeft
is building castles: and Kaula himself was caught him-
self by that American spirit of going ahead: - Our Friends the
beginners of the School did contrive the plan: - Mr. Jorrell ^{did}
did plan a removal unless there was truth: The Board did teach
me to beg: - So it is all scandal: - Several voices I think will come
in the shape: but let it not be by us: - the faculty of New Brunswick
was full of indignation; they will speak out their sentiments out
about the institution and teachers next week: Prof Campbell did subscribe
\$100... only for giving a disapproval -

Let the wood matter be taken care of by Winters: and that what the
School uses will be paid: I wish to have nothing to do with
the whole than by Winters.

I was among the boys in New B: and I heard with the greatest
pleasure that the Boys of the Holland Academy were so
much speaking with the greatest affection and love about
his teacher: - May the Lord strengthen your hands
and cheer your heart and cause you to see great deal
fruit: to see the Boys in NB and hear about their
standing did do my heart good did cheer me very much.

I think to secure the deed of Misses Week by this time.
Storms make the sky clear: - Love to your Lady
Good Bye

Your friend & Brother

A. Van Raalte.

Kingston Dec: 1, 1859

2nd page
subscribing

Dear Brother.

I thank you for your kind letter but I hope you will do better in the future and write me oftener. Do (tho) I am getting sympathy as you say enough but you are mistaken. What would be life without sympathy: Sympathy is an immense powerful influence. let us foster it, let us enjoy it.

I am looking with anxiety after your answer about my question Which I wrote you. Now I have 9 \$100. Subscribers. In the beginning of the week Mr. Porter did hand me the half-printed Intelligencer to read that part of the article "The Holland Academy" and did make me write a hasty reply which I would have done somewhat in another manner if I had read the whole. This may be my excuse for saying nothing more in behalf of the teachers and Western churches: I pray you keep cool and od not write any nor V D W it won't do only harm. Van Vleck says He did not write it and it is not his doing: but my writing against the letter and collections about and for our famine has caused feelings against me in several quarters. It will not do any permanent harm. The leading men love the institution too well: It is not a pleasnt thing to me, a begging man realy has already burden enough to bear: but it does not move me: Now I will be induced to stay some days or weeks in January, after that I must attend to my taxes and come at home. Now I wish you to do your utmost to convince my wife about the necessity of my staving so long: I pray you convince her and if her mind is quiet I shall feel cheered very much. I feel that this bitter piece will do a great deal of mischief in my famely and also in our churches because they will feel the Slander keenly of having cunningly devised the plan to begin a school and to play that school in the hands of Synod. The emigration churches were never up to that, they were too suspicious, they rather thought Van Raalte is building Ear castles: and V Raalte Himslef was caught Himslef by that American Spirit of going ahead. Our Friends the beginners of the school did contrive the plan: Mr. Cornell and V Vleck did plan a removal unless there was build: The Board did teach me to beg: So it is all Slander: Several voices I think will come to the paper: but let it not be by us: the Faculty of New Brunswick was full of indignation they will speak out their sentiments