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Van Raalte Papers: 1840-1849

Van Raalte Papers

11-11-1847

Van Raalte's Account with Courtland Palmer

Courtland Palmer

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Recommended Citation

Palmer, Courtland, "Van Raalte's Account with Courtland Palmer" (1847). *Van Raalte Papers: 1840-1849*. 160.

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November 11, 1847

Van Raalte's account with Courtland Palmer, showing that ACVR paid off the mortgage due Palmer. Courtland's lawyer noted that the mortgage was paid off on September 10, 1853.

Calvin College Archives: Van Raalte Collection, Box 12, folder 195.

Arthur C. Arch
 A.C.V.R. call
 Box 12, June 195

Courtland Palmer		Debet.
Credit 1847		
11 Nov 1847	\$3239,68.	
11 Nov 1848	paid	500, "
28 July 1848	int: 110,60.	
" " "	paid	250,60
11 Sept "	int: 22,18	
" " "	paid	100, "
18 Nov "	int 32,80	
" " "	paid	370, "
22 July 1849	int: 103,65.	
" " "	paid:	391,05.
16 Nov "	int: 12,28.	
" " "	paid	250, "
Aug 1850	int	
" "	paid	74, "
Jan 1851	int:	
" "	paid	80, "
3 May	int:	
" "	paid	110, "
" Aug 7	int:	
" "	paid	50, "
May 1853	int	
May "	paid	100, "

M. Palmer's Mortgage
 upon 1295.87 acres of land
 in the Holland Colony, Ottawa
 County, Michigan,
 dated Nov. 11. 1847, for \$3239.68
 Interest to Aug 7. 1853 = \$ 778.37
 \$ 4018.05
 deduct pay'd to Aug 7/53 = 2205.65
 Leave due Aug 7. 1853 \$ 1812.40

C. Palmer
 by B. Hubbard, his atty.

The above statement of payments by M. Van Rassel on the
 Mortgage held by me of land sold him in Ottawa County
 is correct.
 Sep. 10. 1853 C. Palmer, by B. Hubbard

Nov 11, 1847

Schuffelely, et al.

language. Captain Crosby had helped him tremendously, and no doubt he had learned much in Detroit and Kalamazoo.

One of the most precious documents concerning the early growth of Holland is that written by Peter Wakazoo, Chief of the Ottawa Indians. On May 13, 1848, so reads the account, he sold to A. C. Van Raalte the "house situated in the Indian Village on Black Lake and known as the Church, price \$26.00." Wakazoo added that "said building is to remain where it is this season and to be occupied by the Hollanders as they arrive." Chief Wakazoo had gone to the Old Wing Mission to make this deal with Van Raalte, which fact indicates that the Old Wing Mission was a landmark for the very first of the pioneers. Here Van Raalte on January 1, 1847, found a refuge with the Congregational pastor, and here on February 9, 1847, the seven pioneers that composed the "vanguard" were received with open arms.

Another transaction which shows how ready Van Raalte was to incur debts is one in Dutch dated April 2, 1849, by J. van de Luyster Jr. He begged Van Raalte to pay Mr. J. Wiggers the sum of \$3.25 with interest for the past 17 months. The bill was for 500 feet of lumber. Van Raalte paid it within three days. We must not imagine that he liked to be encumbered with debts. It was far from pleasant for him to receive a letter like the following, dated Grand Rapids, Mich., August 12, 1848: "Above I send you amount of your bill of medicine got by Rev. Dr. Penny in October last. As we are

Hyman

much in want of funds at this time you will confer us a favour by sending in the amount as soon as convenient." It was signed by L. D. Putnam, who on October 5, 1848, stated on the same sheet that he had received payment in full.

Much less pleasant was the fate of Mr. Courtlandt Palmer in New York, who, as we saw, sold to Van Raalte some 3,000 acres of land for about \$7,000. On November 11, 1847, he made Van Raalte sign a document stating that he owed Mr. Palmer the sum of four thousand dollars, but if he would pay him \$2,739.68 in five equal annual installments, "this obligation is to be void, and of none effect, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue." On the reverse side of the document we find that Mr. Palmer sold this bond for \$1828.40 to James Suydam and Samuel B. Schieffelin of the Reformed Church of New York City, the date of sale being October 10, 1853. We also read here that the following payments were received from Van Raalte: November 7, 1854, \$124 on interest; December 8, 1854, \$40 on interest; June 21, 1855, \$50 on interest; August 29, 1855, \$100, and June 23, 1856, \$200.

We have also an important deed from the hand of Peter Schermerhorn of New York City, who on September 1, 1847, sold to Van Raalte 320 acres of land in township 5 of Ottawa Co. Mich., for the sum of \$810. But he seems to have received cash for his land. Van Raalte also paid cash for the following tracts of land from the federal government in the land office at Ionia,