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Van Raalte Papers

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2-19-1864

### A Letter of Ben Van Raalte to His Brother, Dirk

Ben Van Raalte

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February 19, 1864, New York City

A letter of Ben Van Raalte to his brother, Dirk. The letter is written in English. Ben tells about the kind of duty he has currently. He considers New York City "pretty lively."

Calvin College Archives, ACVR collection, Box 10, fldr 159.

Bethly Barracks. New York  
City, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Dear Brother

I now take the opportunity to write you a few lines in good health hoping that these may find you the same. We came here the 14<sup>th</sup> and reported at Head quater[sic] and got transportation to fort mood and report to the community Officer. but he could not receive us and so he gave me an order to the Commanding of this Barrack, to remain here un till he had room for us, the Barracks were crowed[?] waiting for transportation therefore[sic]

[page 2]

it may be a good while yet before we get sent to the front. I should like to go on but than this a very good place we have good grule[sic] and nothing to do no more than to fire up and Keep New Yourk[sic] is quit[sic] a town pretty lively. there ar[sic] only 4 in the squad for the 23<sup>d</sup> A.C. the paper this morning stated that Schofield was marching on Agusta[sic] then it reports him here and then there but it is hard telling were[sic] he is at present. I should like to know wat[sic] you was a doing at present, wether[sic] you was a having a good time or not if you have left for the Hospital than[sic] it will be

[page 3]

rather a dul[sic] time for you this hunting up your command and having charge of a squad of convalescents is not what it is cracked up to be, and I hope that it may be the last pul[sic] of it that I may have now I must come to a close take good care of your self.

Give my best wishes  
to all form[sic] your  
Brother, B. Van Raalte

Send my mail to the Post[?]

Transcribed by Mary Otterness  
March 9, 2004

February 19, 1864, New York City

A letter of Ben Van Raalte to his brother, Dirk. The letter is written in English. Ben tells about the kind of duty he has currently. He considers New York City "pretty lively."

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only letter of Ben  
in Eng-  
(more in file 160)

Calvin C. Welch.  
DE VR call.  
Box 10, plate 159

Bethly Barracks, New York  
City, Feb. 19, <sup>th</sup> 1864

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of your self.

Give my best wishes  
to all from your  
Brother, B. Van Rault

Send my mail in the Post,

only letter of Ben  
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