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A Letter to A. C. Van Raalte from His Son, Ben

Ben Van Raalte

Clarence Jalving

Nella Kennedy

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Gen. Hospital, Atlanta, Ga., October 25, 1864

A letter to A. C. Van Raalte from his son, Ben, who informs his parents that the hospital is to be moved to Chattanooga. Dirk still has not gotten his furlough.

Original in the Archives of the Netherlands Museum.

Translation by Clarence Jalving.

Gen. Hospital, Atlanta, Ga.
Oct. 25, 1864

Worthy Father,

I am happy to write you that both of us are still in a state of good health, and hope that it is the same for you. Today all of the Indiana boys are going home on furlough, at least those who are able to walk five miles, to cast their vote. There must be some place [along the line] where they still have to walk five miles. Dirk still couldn't get his furlough or he would have gone along with them. His arm is as good as healed. The hospital is also going to be moved this week, or the beginning of next week, this time to Chattanooga.

[2]

Possibly Dirk will get his furlough from there. After we get there I am going to rejoin the Corps. We haven't had any letters for a long time and none leave either. I am going to send this one with the Indiana boys. Dirk says you should not look for him too soon as it may well be a couple of months before he can get home.

Greet everyone from me,

Your loving
B. Van Raalte

*[Translation: Clarence Jalving; revision: Nella Kennedy,
February 2009]*

Gen: Hosp: Atlanta Ga:
Oct: 25th/64

Waarde Vader.

Met veel genoegen is het dat ik uw schrijven kan dat wij nog in goede gezondheid mogen verkeerden, en hoop dat het zelvde met uw mag weezen. vandaag gaan al de Indiana Boys naar huis aan furlough, die bekwaam zijn om vijf mijlen te loopen, om te stemmen er moet nog een breek zijn van vijf mijlen. Dirk kan nog geen furlough krijgen anders ging hij me. de arm is zo goed als beeter het Hospitaal zal ook vermoeven worden, van de week of het begin van de ander, het zal naar Chattanooga

[2]

vervoerd worden, en misschien zal Dirk van daar wel verlof krijgen en als wij daar koomen dan gaan ik naar de Corps. brieven hebben wij al in geen lange tijd gehad en er gaan er ook geen uit en nu wil ik deeze letteren weg sturen met de Ind Boys Dirk zijt dat uw maar niet na hem uit zien moet want het zal nog wel een paar maand duren eer dat hij naar huis komt.

Groet allen van mij
Uw Lief. B. Van Raalte

*[Transcription: Nella Kennedy,
February 2009]*

45

Holland Historical Trust Collection
of the
Joint Archives of Holland

Gen. Hoop; Atlanta, Ga.

Oct. 25th / 64

Waarde Vader,

Met veel genoegen
is het dat Ik uw schrijven kon
dat wij nog in goede gezondheid
magen ~~verkeeren~~ verkeeren, en hoop
dat het gelude met u mag
wezen. Van daag gaen al de
Indiana Boys, naar huis aan
verloofte, die bekramen zijn om
vijf mijlen te loopen, om te stercken
en moet nog een buck zijn van
vijf mijlen. Dierk kon nog geen
verloofte krijgen anders ging hij
mes, de arm is zo goed als beter
het Hospital sal ook vermoeden
worden, van de week of het begin
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vervoerd worden, en misschien zal
Lijck van daar wel verloop krijgen
en als zij naar Roemen dan gaar ik
~~naar~~ naar de Corps. Brieven hebben
mij al in geen lange tijd gehad
en zo gaar er ook geen uit en
nu wil ik deze letteren nog
sturen met de Jnd Bays
Dit is het dat- uit maar niet-
na hem uit dien ^{moet} Mant- het
dat nog wel een paar maand
duure dat hij naar huis komt

Groet-Allen van mij
Vnd Lief B. Van Bealte

#45

Gen. Hospital, Atlanta Ga. Oct.25,1864

Dear Father:

I am happy to say that we are both well and hope you are also well. Today all of the Indiana boys are going home for a furlough, at least those who are able to walk five miles, to cast their vote. There must be some place along the line where they still have to walk five miles. Dirk still couldn't get his furlough or he would have gone along with them. His arm is as good as healed. The hospital is going to be moved this week or the beginning of next week, this time to Chattanooga. Possibly Dirk will get his furlough there. After we get there I am going to rejoin the Corps. We haven't had any letters for a long time and none leave either. I am going to send this one with the Indiana boys. Dirk says you must not look for him too soon as it will undoubtedly be a couple of months before he gets home. Best regards to all.

Your loving
B Van Raalte

#45

Gen. Hospital, Atlanta Ga. Oct. 25, 1864

Worship

Dear Father:

I am happy to ^{write you} ^{well} say that we are both ^{in a state of good health} well and hope ^{that it is the same for you} you are also well. Today all of the Indiana boys are going home for a furlough, at least those who are able to walk five miles, to cast their vote. There must be some place [along the line] where they still have to walk five miles. Dirk still couldn't get his furlough or he would have gone along with them. His arm is as good as healed. The hospital is ^{also} going to be moved this week or the beginning of next week, this time ^{from} to Chattanooga. Possibly Dirk will get his furlough there. After we get there I am going to rejoin the Corps. We haven't had any letters for a long time and none leave either. I am going to send this one with the Indiana boys. Dirk says you must not look for him too soon as it ^{may} ^{will} undoubtedly be a couple of months before he ^{can} get home. Best regards to all.

W *Love ever yours from me,*

Your loving
B Van Raalte