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The Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Council of Hope College

Abel T. Stewart

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13 November 1876

Holland, Michigan

At the conclusion of the minutes of the executive committee of the Council of Hope College there was a tribute to Dr. Albertus C. Van Raalte, entitled, "In Memoriam." The first sentences are of special interest because he was not declared founder of Hope College: "Dr. Van Raalte, having been identified with the entire history of the Holland Academy while it was yet in a formative state, was appointed by the General Synod a member of the first Board of Superintendents, when the Institution was organized in 1863, and when the Board was incorporated in 1866 he was constituted 'Permanent Member' to represent the Particular Synod of Chicago, which relation he held till the time of his decease.....We rejoice that he lived long enough to see the realization of his desire expressed in the first report sent to the General Synod in 1852 'This is my anchor of hope for this people in the future.'"

Not transcribed.

Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Council of Hope College, 88-93.

Original in the Hope College collection of the Joint Archives of Holland at Hope College.

July 11,
1876

Res that bills nos 1. to 11 which had been ordered paid by Doct^r Phelps previous to the meeting of Council & some of which had been paid by the Treasurer upon said orders be approved.

Res that bills no 12 & 13 be approved

Res that bill no 14 be laid on the table. An Executor of the will of Shelle Bergsona appeared in Council and showed a copy of the will, giving 1/10th of his property to Hope College for an investment in her interests and also a copy of the appraisment under the will footing up \$4265.61

Res that the hour of meeting be changed from 2 P.M. to 10 1/2 A.M. & the meeting adjourned & was closed with prayer by Mr. De Pree.

Res that the Treasurer be directed to pay over \$15.00 to the Com on Investments.

Abel. J. Stewart Sec.

No 13
1876

Holland city - Mich No 13. 1876

The Ex Com met at 10 1/2 on the 24 Monday of mo.

Present

Res Philip Phelps. Abel. J Stewart
Ex officio. H. Viteray B. Helen Brewster

No 13
1876

Mr Stewart opened the meeting with prayer.

A report of vacancies in the Preparatory & Academic Depts and of appointments to the same made by Doctor Phelps was read & approved. See paper marked A. The Sec mentioned that "The Board of Education had authorized their Secs. to pay to the Secs of Gen Lyon \$2.00 per month for six months from May 1. 1876 to aid in meeting the salaries of the Theological Professors at Hope College."

Res that a Com consisting of the President and Secretary be appointed to prepare and present to this body resolutions appropriate to the death of the Rev Converse Vander Meulen.

Res that the same be done in the case of Rev A. C. Van Raalte D.D. The President spoke of the unsafe condition of some parts of the College Building. Whereupon it was Res that the Com on Improvements be requested to examine the foundations and chimneys of the College building and make such repairs in the

Nov. 13. 1896

Minutes of the Executive
Committee, Council of Hope College

as they shall find necessary.
The Com consists of Provs. Pieters
Charles Scott
J De Pace,

The meeting was closed with
prayer by Mr. Pieters.

Abel. S. Stewart
Secretary.

Paper ordered in Res on page 89.

In Memoriam

The Ex. Com of the Council of Hope College
in view of the death of Rev. A. C.
Van Raalte D.D., the President of the
Council have adopted the following
expression of their feelings & have Re-
solved to place it on permanent record
in behalf of the whole Council.

Doctor Van Raalte, having
been identified with the entire history
of the Holland Academy while it was
yet in a formative state, was appointed
by the General Synod a member of the first
Board of Superintendents, when the
Institution was organized in 1863,
and when the Board was incorporated in
1866 he was constituted "Permanent
Member" to represent the Particular.

Synod of Chicago at large which relations he held till the time of his decease.

In 1869 when the whole school was re-organized as the Synod's school Theological College and the Superintendency of the Council was extended to the Theological Dept., which had just been established Doctor Van Rensselaer was chosen President of the Council to which position he was re-elected each subsequent year, thus both by previous labors and continued membership & presidency of the Council he was enabled to show to a very influential extent in the supervision of an enterprise so important & so dear in his eyes that to it he devoted a very valuable portion of his estate. We rejoice that he lived long enough to see the realization of his desire expressed in the first report sent to the General Synod in 1852 "This is my anchor of hope for this people in the future" We mourn the pervasiveness of a tie which united us as Colonists in a cause of so precious interest; and we tender to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathies with our prayers in their behalf.

of a Memorandum

The Ex. Com. of the Council of Hope College in view of the death of their late associate Rev Cornelis Vander Meulen which has occurred since their last meeting desire to record the following expression.

Dornonic Van Der Meulen as one of the pioneer Ministers of the Holland Colony in Michigan took an active interest in the educational work which has since culminated in Hope College. Previous to the organization his influence among the Hollanders was exerted for the selection of suitable young men as students and for providing means for their support. Subsequently he became a member of the Council of Hope College and in this capacity he was always esteemed as one of the most valuable of the Holland representatives. His Associates on the Council & Ex. Com. cherish his memory and feel that in his departure the Constitution has lost one of its best friends. The responsibility now becomes the heavier for those of us who remain. But we believe the Lord will take care of his work &

1876 in place of his servant whom he has called to his rest will raise up other laborers. His bereaved family and church have our warmest sympathies; & our prayers is that this our common loss may be sanctified to our common good.

The Executive Committee met on the afternoon of Nov 27, 1876.

Present Rev Doctor Phelps in the Chair

Rev. of Pietas, Henry Winterbotham and Abel. S. Stewart. The Chairman opened the meeting with prayer. Resolved that the interest \$1,400 on Councils notes given respectively to Eliza Phelps for \$1500. and Mrs M. A. J. Phelps for \$500 in all \$2000 be paid up to January first 1877. The meeting was adjourned. Abel. S. Stewart Secretary.

1877 The Ex. Com. met in special session

Feb 5. Present Rev Doctor Philip Phelps in the Chair. Henry Winterbotham, Rev. of Pietas, Abel. S. Stewart, Elder Isaac Brown. The meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. Brown.

Res. that the Com. on real Estate have