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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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10 July 1855

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, the major item for discussion was concerning the pillars for the new church.

In Dutch; translation by Rev. William and Althea Buursma, 2000.

Original in the collection of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, volume II, page 3.

Meeting held on July 10, 1855

Present were Elders Broek, Labots, Jonker, Krabshuis, Keppel, Apeldoorn, and Hekhuis; Deacons P. de Vries and D. te Roller; as well as Rev. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 2 – Brother te Roller makes the following proposal: To leave the pillars of the church, currently not yet completed, in that condition, and to use the monies designated for the pillars directly for finishing the interior of the church, via hourly wages. This is to be done under the direction of Schrader.

However, it is understood that the contractors for the pillars will finish their work for the same amount of money within a period of 18 months. This proposal was unanimously accepted, and Brothers te Roller, de Vries, Krabshuis, and Jonker are appointed to inform the contractors of this decision.

ARTICLE 3 – Information was received that Mr. Knol very likely is willing to advance \$200.00 in money and \$100.00 worth of floor planking at 7%, in order that the church building may be completed. This offer was also given to the above-mentioned committee for consideration.

ARTICLE 4 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Broek.

A. C. van Raalte, Clerk

Meeting of August 2, 1855

Present were Elders Hekhuis, Broek, Labots; Deacons G. W. Wilterdink, P. de Vries; and Rev. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. van Raalte, and the minutes of the three previous meetings were read and approved. The only comment made was that in the previous meeting mention was made that in the further review of the accounts of the deacons an error of \$24.00 was discovered and corrected.

ARTICLE 2 - It was decided that at the next meeting the graves which have been purchased will be noted in the minute book.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee dealing with the proposal concerning the pillars reports that the documents are in the hands of the contractors. They will do \$125.00 worth of labor inside the church and for the same amount of money will complete the work on the pillars within 18 months. They were promised \$50.00 in advance for work during the winter.