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5-30-1865

### Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

G. Wakker

William Buursma

Althea Buursma

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30 May 1865

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte was not present, clerk Gerrit Wakker reported on a family in which the wife refused to go back to her husband. It was reported that a member had misused strong drink. The building committee was not ready to report.

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

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, pp. 239-240.

to take an offering for assisting the Graafschaap congregation. It was decided to acquiesce in this recommendation by seeking funds in a drive in the church, because a collection will very likely not bring up sufficient funds. In order to give some relief to the deacons, this will be done by the elders.

ARTICLE 9 – The committee for J. Reidsema and P. Nagelkerk was unable to report. The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother te Roller.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of May 30, 1865

Absent: Brothers Labots, te Roller, Naber, Kieft, Beeuwkes.

ARTICLE 1.– The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother de Bruin.

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee for P. Nagelkerk and J. Reidsema, reports that at the first named they were fairly well received, although he is grieved that there had been so little attention paid to him by not visiting him. He adds that Wakker had previously promised to speak with his wife, but that this commitment had not been fulfilled. (Nagelkerk) did not appear to be willing to unconditionally take his wife back in order to live with her, but he was interested in knowing what her attitude was concerning these matters.

Wakker reported that he had visited the woman and that she, without mincing any words, declared that she had no desire at all to live with her husband. She said that his absence made her life better than if they were together. Received for information.

The committee for J. Reidsema reported that at first in their visit they were able to converse with him, but later a bitter

attitude surfaced, and he was of the opinion that his sister, Mies, had treated him wrongfully. He also objected to being placed under censure, and that he was not inclined to seek reconciliation or to confess wrongdoing. He believed that he was only upholding his right. Finally, he chose not to reply to a question concerning an expression or accusation which he had utilized. The committee felt that further discussion was futile, and after having had prayer with him, they left for home. Received for information.

ARTICLE 5 – Some complaints concerning misuse of strong liquor were brought against Brother Taeke. De Bruin and Keppel were appointed as a committee to investigate with this member and to admonish him. There was also a discussion about similar irregularities concerning a member Schuur, but, given the fact that he lives so far away, and that it is difficult to catch him at home, all of the elders were urged to speak with him about this at their first opportunity.

ARTICLE 6 – A committee, consisting of K. Schaddelee and Capon from the building committee, added by the consistory, informs the meeting that they are not ready to report and ask for a postponement of eight days; whereupon, it was decided to meet again in eight days at 7 o'clock.

The meeting was closed by Brother Keppel.

G. Wakker, clerk

Meeting of June 7, 1865

Present: Wakker, Labots, Keppel, Oonk, Broek, Geerlings; and from the building committee, K. Schaddelee and Capon, who presented a written report containing certain decisions. These decisions were, in the judgment of the consistory members present, out of order, and returned to the committee with the request to meet again eight days from now, with all of the members, and to make a report of their assigned activities in the gathering of funds. Brother ? was appointed chairman. Because there was no quorum present, no decisions could be made.

The meeting was closed by Brother Wakker.

G. Wakker, clerk