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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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20 March 1866

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, routine matters were dealt with, in particular, matters with members under censure.

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, p. 261.

Consistory Meeting of March 20, 1866

Absent: Brothers Broek, Naber, and Vork.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. A. C. van Raalte, chairman.

ARTICLE 2 – Present at the meeting was J. van Dam, who desired lifting of censure, which was applied because of his separation from his wife. He indicates that they have mutually reconciled themselves, but have decided that it is not advisable nor desirable to live together. Because there are other items on the agenda, it was decided to discuss this matter later.

ARTICLE 3 – Present at the meeting were Jacobus Westveer and wife, Hendrika Dijkema, Thijs Stad, and Dirkje van Haaften, nee van Aarondonk, desiring to be admitted to the Lord's Supper. All were accepted.

ARTICLE 4 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 5 – The committee for J. van Dijk reports that he did not seem to know that the censure had been applied to him. He is of a mind to be reunited with his wife, and to remove all hindrances currently in the way. He had expressed this in the presence of Brother Kamper. However, the wife rejected his overtures, etc.

The assembly judged that the censure of van Dijk should be lifted, but that before this takes place the committee should make another careful investigation and to deal particularly with the wife. The committee consists of the minister and Kamper.

ARTICLE 6 – At the request of J. de Spelder, it was decided to recommend his son to our local board of education for support from the classical funds in order to pay for his books.

ARTICLE 7 – Membership received for Annsa Dortha van de Roovaart, from Chicago, dated September 25, 1865.

ARTICLE 8 – Brothers Keppel and te Roller were appointed to obtain a plan and estimate from W. Minderhout for the Third Church on the county line. ✓

ARTICLE 9 – It was decided to meet again in eight days.

The meeting was closed by Kieft.

G. Wakker, clerk