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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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18 September 1867

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, two of the new members received were Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Schols from Amsterdam.

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. 297-268.

After various comments had been made, a proposal was made to bring the salary total up to \$1,000.00 annually. Brother Schaddelee, although he indicated that he approved the \$1,000.00 salary, could not give his approbation to this decision, because there were less than 2/3rds of the required number of members present.

Note: According to the custom of the congregation, the church members were called upon to attend this congregational meeting, and for this reason the legality of the meeting was declared.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Vaarwerk.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of September 18, 1867

Absent: Brother Labots.

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

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

ARTICLE 3 – Andries Steketee entered the meeting, desiring to be admitted to the table of the Lord. After an interview, he was accepted.

ARTICLE 4 – The chairman informed the meeting that J. van Dam had accompanied him to van Dam's wife, and had declared himself prepared to live with her again. The wife, however, had rejected this, and was unwilling to heal the ruptured relationship.

It was decided that once again a committee would be appointed to investigate this matter, and, upon a satisfactory statement from J. van Dam to lift his censure.

Membership statement received for C. H. Schols and wife, from Amsterdam, the Netherlands, dated February 20, 1867. Also that of M. J. van der Sluis, from Marrum, the Netherlands, dated 1867.

ARTICLE 6 – Membership received for the widow Minderhout from Grand Rapids, dated September 5, 1867.

ARTICLE 7 – A statement of membership was requested and granted to Cor Dijkema and wife to North Holland.

ARTICLE 8 – Brother Broek reports that the difficulties between D. van Leenen and wife have been resolved, and that they are living with one another again.

ARTICLE 9 – According to a decision of the previous meeting, the note of J. Labots was signed by the consistory, in the sum of \$246.90. Later, however, this was withdrawn. (See minutes of December 23, 1867 (sic).

ARTICLE 10 – Following custom, the usual questions concerning the proper celebration of the Lord's Supper were answered.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother de Bruin.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of November 26, 1867

Present: Brothers Keppel, Wakker, Labots, de Bruin, Kerkhof, van der Zee, Rev. van Raalte, Capon, Geerlings, Beeuwkes, de Jong, Kamper.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Keppel.

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes were read and approved.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee for van Dam reports that they have been satisfied and have admitted him to the table of the Lord.

ARTICLE 4 – Membership received for Gieljan Loeursen from Biezelingen, the Netherlands.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided, by way of a recommendation, to nominate the following persons as members of the consistory to the upcoming congregational meeting on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1867: as elders: Beeuwkes, Schrader, Pijster, and van den Berge; as deacons: Vaupel, J. ter Vree, G. Vaarwerk, Sprietsma, Kroon.

ARTICLE 6 – It was decided that in the formation of a trio, the pastors Pieters, Zwemer, and C. Oggel, will be recommended. The meeting was closed by Rev. van Raalte.

G. Wakker, clerk