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A Letter of A. C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps

A. C. Van Raalte

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Amelia C. H., Va., [August 3, 1869]

No. 52

A letter of A. C. Van Raalte to Philip Phelps, informing him that due to the illness of Rev. Oggel, his son-in-law, Mrs. Van Raalte insists that the family return to Holland. So they are leaving on the 10th. He may be able to raise funds for the endowment in the fall.

Original in the Archives of Hope College

(as manuscript)

Amelia C.H. Va

Aug. 3, 1869

Revd Dr Phelps

Dear Brother,

Mrs Van Raalte's mind is bend upon Michigan hearing from our Mina that Oggel is not better: and it would scarcely be worth while to spent with her two or three weeks in the East, I belief it is necessary for her that I should go first to attend to Michigan matters, to leave Holland early in the fall for the East and the Endowment Work: Therefore I come to the conclusion to get the money somewhere, which is necessary for the journey and not to wait for Michigan friends: D.V. I intend to leave on the 10th of this month direct for Holland Michigan.

May the Lord direct our ways and graciously bless our labors.

Love to you and Mrs Phelps alsoo from Mrs. Van Raalte and famely

Your friend and Brother

A.C. Van Raalte

Amelia C.H. Va

Rev'd Dr Phelps

Dear Brother,

Mrs Van Raalte's mind is bent upon Michigan hearing from our Mina that Oggel is not better: and it would scarcely be worth while to spent with her two or three weeks in the East, I belief it is necessary for her that I should go first to attend to Michigan matters, to leave Holland early in the fall for the East and the Endowment Work: Therefore I come to the conclusion to get the money somewhere, which is necessary for the journey and not to wait for Michigan friends: D.V. I intend to leave on the 10th of this month direct for Holland Michigan.

May the Lord direct our ways and graciously bless our labors.

Love to you and Mrs Phelps alsoe from Mrs Van Raalte and
family

Your friend and Brother

A.C. Van Raalte.

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69-08-03 [GS52]

This letter exists only in transcription done by Rev. George Scholten. The letter has many misspelled words and Van Raalte's usual punctuation or lack thereof.

Amelia C. H. Va
[3 August 1869]¹

Revd Dr Phelps

Dear Brother,

Mrs. Van Raalte's mind is bend upon Michigan hearing from our Mina² that Oggel is not better: and it would scarcely be worth while to spent with her two or three weeks in the East, I belief it is necessary for her that I should go first to attend to Michigan matters, to leave Holland early in the fall for the East and the Endowment Work: Therefore I come to the conclusion to get the money somewhere, which is necessary for the journey and not to wait for Michigan friends: D.V.³ I intend to leave on the 10th of this month direct for Holland Michigan.

May the Lord direct our ways and graciously bless our labors.

Love to you and Mrs Phelps alsoo from Mrs Van Raalte and famely

Your friend and Brother

A. C. Van Raalte.

¹ This date is an approximate guess. It was written after 25 July and before 10 August when the family left Amelia to return to Holland, Michigan.

² Short for Wilhelmina. Her full name was Johanna Maria Wilhelmina. She and Pieter J. Oggel were married 18 April 1860. The marriage was announced in *De Hollander*, 25 April 1860. She remarried Teunis Keppel, 31 May 1876. Full information on Mina can be found in *Albertus and Christina: The Van Raalte Family, Home and Roots*, Elton J. Bruins, Karen G. Schakel, Sara Fredrickson Simmons, and Marie N. Zingle, (William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2004), 100-108.

³ These initials stand for the Latin term, *Deo volente*, or the Lord willing.