June 2013


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**Abstract**

One of four Phelps family children born in Van Vleck Hall on Hope College’s campus, in Holland, Michigan. Son of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Philip Phelps, Jr. (1826-1896). He graduated from Hope College in 1882 with an A.B. degree and M.A. degree in 1885 and a theological degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1889. During his time at NBTS, he was a member of a group made up of Dr. Lansing, Dr. Zwemer and Dr. Cantine, responsible for establishing the Arabian Mission. He served as a pastor of several New York churches in the Reformed Church in America (RCA) at Sharon (1889-1895), First Reformed Church of Ghent (1895-1900), Gansevoort (1902-1908), stated supply for Buskirk (1908-1910), Clarkesville (1913-1914) and Cohoes, New York (1921-1922). The collection includes articles like, “Enough?”, a letter of apology for failure to accompany Samuel M. Zwemer and James Cantine to Arabia; the book, The Golden Milestone by Zwemer and Cantine contains references to P. T. Phelps and penciled notes about him; annual reports of the Board of Domestic Missions (RCA) from 1849-1852 that contain reports on Holland, Michigan, by Philip Phelps, A. C. Van Raalte and Isaac Newton Wyckoff; a poem by P. T. Phelps about Van Vleck Hall; his obituary; two tracts by him; a photograph of Van Vleck Hall and drawing of Hope College campus; bound volume of commencement programs of Holland Academy, 1861-1865, and of Hope College, 1866-1885; and a scrapbook containing clippings, letters, photographs and other documents pertaining to Phelps’ life.

**Accession No.:** H88-0122.1  
**Provenance:** Phillip Tertius Phelps  
**Donor:** George Benjamin Scholten  
**Photographs:** 6 images (Box 1)  
**Processed by:** Rebecca A. O’Shesky, February 1992

**Biography**

One of four Phelps family children born in Van Vleck Hall on Hope College’s campus, in Holland, Michigan. Son of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Philip Phelps, Jr. (1826-1896). He graduated from Hope College in 1882 with an A.B. degree and M.A. degree in 1885 and a theological degree from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1889. During his time at NBTS, he was a member of a group made up of Dr. Lansing, Dr. Zwemer and Dr. Cantine, responsible for establishing the Arabian Mission. He served as a pastor of several New York churches in the Reformed Church in America (RCA) at Sharon (1889-1895), First Reformed Church of Ghent (1895-1900), Gansevoort (1902-1908), stated supply for Buskirk (1908-1910), Clarkesville (1913-1914) and Cohoes, New York (1921-1922).

Phelps passed away on October 22, 1944 in East Northfield, Massachusetts.

**Scope and Content**
The collection includes articles like, “Enough?”, a letter of apology for failure to accompany Samuel M. Zwemer and James Cantine to Arabia; the book, The Golden Milestone by Zwemer and Cantine contains references to P. T. Phelps and penciled notes about him; annual reports of the Board of Domestic Missions (RCA) from 1849-1852 that contain reports on Holland, Michigan, by Philip Phelps, A. C. Van Raalte and Isaac Newton Wyckoff; a poem by P. T. Phelps about Van Vleck Hall; his obituary; two tracts by him; a photograph of Van Vleck Hall and drawing of Hope College campus; bound volume of commencement programs of Holland Academy, 1861-1865, and of Hope College, 1866-1885; and a scrapbook containing clippings, letters, photographs and other documents pertaining to Phelps’ life.

Container List

Box 1

Arabian Missions, Handwritten and typed transcript of a letter written to Samuel Zwemer and James Cantine apologizing for not accompanying them to Arabia, 1939

Biographical, n.d., 1941

Board of Domestic Missions Annual Report, 1849-1852

Commencement Programs

Holland Academy, 1861-1865
Hope College, 1866-1885

Correspondence, 1881, 1887, n.d.

Photographs

Birthday Party, 1942 (1 image)
Hope College campus composite of buildings, n.d. (1 image)
Phelps, Philip T., n. d., 1937 (3 images)
Van Vleck Hall, 1882 (1 image)


Theological Seminary of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey Catalog, 1848-1849, 1854-1855

Box 2

Scrapbook, 1866-1938