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12-9-1846

### Letter from Mrs. G. Groen van Prinsterer to Hendrik P. Scholte

G. Groen van Prinsterer

Nella Kennedy

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9 (?) December 1846

The Hague, the Netherlands

Mrs. G. Groen van Prinsterer, nee v. d. Hoop, wrote Rev. Hendrik P. Scholte. She said that "You know how we regretted the Secession, and now another grievous separation in many ways." She also said that "...the Word is not bound and if the Holy Spirit blesses the preaching it will have the same fruits here as in North America."

In Dutch; translation by Nella Kennedy, October 2002.

Original is located in the archives of Central College, Pella, Iowa.

Maand-Graden in 'Lof' M'beent  
 die my lees ik niet <sup>in eer</sup> <sup>met</sup> <sup>inleggen</sup>  
 de <sup>1835</sup> <sup>for completion</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>debt</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
 ningen, <sup>own</sup> <sup>groot</sup>, <sup>own</sup> <sup>groot</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
 ik in de <sup>your</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>, <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
 ten de hebben <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
 ten is <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup> <sup>de</sup>  
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Archives Central College,  
 Pella, Iowa  
 Groen van Prinsterer te

gromden dy, dat de same verlaten moet  
worden, en hier geen hoop meer is om  
Gods volk? Hier lyden zij groot,  
maar wordt danktoef 20's 10's beklining  
of heiliging om de gebreken - Het  
viek vallyf in America bekeft, mencken  
my van Maaly te derkenigen, die tyding  
al menemen dat de menschen brood vinden,  
en onze geloovigen dān in woord en wa-  
del den vlees stakelyken - Gy moet  
't hoe my de schiding bekeneden, en  
nu nog stakelyken schiding in de op-  
ken! - Maar het Gods melkegelyk dy,  
20's zullen my allen dit in de gevolgen en  
klunen; intusphen men ik niet dat men  
met enig recht en byna stakelyke afken-  
ding mag villyken jegens hen, die vān de  
de gevolgen dy en ontrent 't blyven in de kerk  
of vānland - De neg der stakelyke  
stakementid is in lekenen dān, hoe ons gien  
vān led, niet voor allen dy die my's gien





The Hague, Dec. 9 [?], 1846

Worthy brother in faith!

I accuse myself much not having invested [deposited?] the f. 35 to satisfy the debt in Scheveningen, our greeting, our prayers for blessings for you and yours, our answer to your letters. The ... [?] is still always difficult, otherwise I do not know how much to be grateful for the health of my husband, who continues to work with his usual zeal or perhaps also through the knowledge of God's great deeds. The heart of the fathers could return within the children. Can we, with the reading of His mercies doubt that everything was grace? Also now he can glorify still that same grace to king and people, pouring out the Spirit of prayers. Oh, on what basis shall we declare that His blessing has gone for ever, that one needs to leave one's heritage, and that there is no hope anymore for God's people? This suffering is great, but will become reason for gratitude if it is used for conversion or sanctification. - As far as the stay in America is concerned, we wish to hear from truly informed people the report that the people are finding bread, and that our believers will glorify the Lord in word and walk. You know how we regretted the Secession, and now another grievous separation in many ways [or: {how grievous the Secession [continues] in many ways}. If it pleases God we will all recognize this in the consequences; in the meantime I do not mean that one has any right to show offensive disapproval towards them who feel [strongly] about staying in church or fatherland. - The way of Christian service is in a certain sense how [?] us ...[?] leads, is not open for all in that way in the case of freedom of religion and schools. But the Word is not bound and if the Holy Spirit blesses the preaching it will have the same fruits here as in North America. - The responsibility you and your friends have taken upon you seems a heavy accountability to me, both for those who stay as for those who leave. May all take place in humble prayer, and with a full heart before our God. - May he be near to you, beloved brother! Receive from both of us our warm greetings and blessings for your welfare, and ....[?] send me some news of the safe arrival - what remains will be for the collection for the poor.

Your loving sister in the faith,  
B. Groen v. Prinsterer, nee v.d. Hoop

That sweet Suze Hall, I saw her in my mind's eye, at the rereading of those letters; how great the...[?]. Wm [?] can be pitied in so many ways after [or: now] the ... [?] in the ...[?] of God's people.

Translated: Nella Kennedy, October 2002

[several words could not be decyphered, which resulted occasionally in an awkward word order.]