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A. C. V. R. Gilmore, the Son of Rev. William and Christine Gilmore, Wrote a Letter to His Grandfather, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, Expressing His Concern That Grandpa Was Ill

A. C. V. R. Gilmore

Erica D. Heeg

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26 March 1870 [?]

Amelia, Virginia

A.C.V. R. Gilmore, the son of Rev. William and Christine Gilmore, wrote a letter to his grandfather, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, expressing his concern that grandpa was ill. The assigned date is uncertain. His parents lived in Amelia from 1869 to 1873. Even by 1873, it is doubtful that this child could have composed this letter in his own hand.

Original in English and located in the Van Raalte collection, no. 300, at Heritage Hall, Calvin College.

Amelia b. (?)

Dear Grandpa,

I know that you are to sick to rite to me and I am sorry to hear that you have so much pain I hope that Gad will make you better and spare you many years more I now it is hard to be sick and have so much paine if you are sick and cant rite me therefore I should not stope ritting at you that would not be right fore we should alwais rite to a sick person I am glad to hear that Grandma is not worse O (?) that God will make her better and gave her strangth and helth it makes me feel badly to think now much she suffers I am glad to hear that all the rest are will I was so glad when I herd that little Miney coud walk alone it must be nice to see her walk we have such plessent wetter here I am shoure if Grandma was heare she wood get will a (?) we planted some peas and babbage aboute a finger above the ground the (?)each and plum and chary trees are all in blossem and the pare trees are in full leve you couldnt get me back to Old Mishingan ware you cant get a spade into the ground yet and were we peas and cabbage a finger above the ground I gat 18 chickens I get 7 and 6 eggs a day and Mr Scott hase (?) ducks in my care and last satterday they begain to lay I set 1 chicken and the sacken week she broke (?) and all the eggs good fore nothing but I ain't gave (?) yet I set another wonder what she will make of it if at first not suchseed try try a gin Mr Scott bout home last night a cow and cave it is a real good cave we are all will till gringma I will rite her the first after this gave my love to all you must not expect a large letter

from your Grandson A C Van Raalte

Good night Deare Grandpa

Transcribed by Erica D. Heeg
October 18, 2002

26 March 1870 [?]

Amelia, Virginia

A.C.V. R. Gilmore, the son of Rev. William and Christine Gilmore, wrote a letter to his grandfather, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, expressing his concern that grandpa was ill. The assigned date is uncertain. His parents lived in Amelia from 1869 to 1873. Even by 1873, it is doubtful that this child could have composed this letter in his own hand.

Original in English and located in the Van Raalte collection, no. 300, at Heritage Hall, Calvin College.

26 Mar 1870?

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint handwritten text, possibly a name or address.]

Dear Grandpa

I know that you are so sick to
rite to me and I am sorry to hear
that ^{you} have so much pain O.P. hopes
that God will make you better
and spare you many years more
I know it is hard to be sick and have
so much paine if you are sick and
cant rite me therefore I should
not stop riting at you that
would not be right fore we should
allways rite to a sick person I am glad
to hear that Grand ma is not worse
O.P. hope that God will make her
better and ~~have~~ gave her strength
and health it makes me feel badly
to think how much she suffers I am
glad to hear that all the rest are
well I was so glad when P. heard that

Calvin McRae
Mar 10, 1870

little Minny could ~~walk~~^{walk} alone
it must be nice to see her walk
we have such plessent wetter here
Pamshoure if Grand ma was here
she wood get will a gin we planted
some peas and cabbage a boites a finger
era bove the ground the seach ared
plum and cherry trees are all in
blossom and the pear trees are in
full leve you couldnt get me back
to Old Michigan ware you cant get a
spade in to the ground yet and were
we peas and cabbage a finger a
bove the ground P got 18 chickens P
get 1 and a eggs a day and Mr Scott
had 3 ducks in my care and last satter
day they began to lay P set 1 chicken
and the sacken web she broke of and
all the eggs good fore nothing but P
aint gone of yet P set an other
wonder what she will make of it
it is best not to pick and that is

gin Mr Scott bout home last
night a cow and ~~taff~~ gave it
is a real good save we are all will
till Gringma P will rite her the
first after this gave my love to all
you must not expect a large letter
- from your Grand son ch Van Raalt
Good night Deare Grand
pas

26 Mar 1870?

~~Dear Grandpa~~
At Melia b. 1870

Dear Grandpa
I know that you are so sick to
rite to me and I am sorry to hear
that ^{you} have so much pain O P hope
that God will make you better
and spare you many years more
I know it is hard to be sick and have
so much paine if you are sick and
cant rite me therefore I should
not stop ritting at you that
woud not be right fore we should
always rite to a sick person I am glad
to hear that Grand ma is not worse
O P hope that God will make her
better and ~~have~~ gave her strength
and ~~little~~ it makes me feel badly
to think how much she suffers I am
glad to hear that all the rest are
well I was so glad when I heard that

Calvin K. R. P.
Mar 10, 1870

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the left side of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

little money could ~~walk~~ ^{walk} alone
it must be nice to see her walk
we have such pleasant weather here
Pamthore if Grand ma was here
she would get will a gin we planted
some peas and cabbage a bottle a finger
era above the ground the peach and
plum and cherry trees are all in
blossom and the pear trees are in
full leave you could not get me back
to Old Michigan were you can't get a
shade into the ground yet and were
five peas and cabbage a finger a
above the ground. P. got 18 chickens. P.
get 2 and 6 eggs a day and Mr Scott
had ducks in my care and last satter
day they began to lay. P. set 1 chickens
and the sack web she broke off and
all the eggs good for nothing but P.
aunt give off yet. P. set an other
wonder what she will make of it
if at first not succeed try try a

gin Mr Scott bout home last
night a cow and ~~cut~~ ~~scat~~ cave it.
is a real good have we are all well
till Gring ma P will rite her the
first after this. Give my love to all
you must not expect a large letter
fram your Grand son et b Van Raalt
God night Deare Grand
pa

At Melia B. H. Harris 50

Grandpa
ow that you are so sick to
me and I am sorry to hear
ve so much pain O P hope
dad will make you better
are you many years more
is hard to be sick and have
paine if you are sick and
ite me therefore I should
be writing at you that
ot be right here we should