

Hope College

## Hope College Digital Commons

---

Van Raalte Papers: 1840-1849

Van Raalte Papers

---

8-12-1847

### Article "Emigrants From Holland" in the Christian Intelligencer

Thomas De Witt

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp\\_1840s](https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1840s)

Christian Intelligencer, August 12, 1847, p. 18.

---

#### Recommended Citation

De Witt, Thomas, "Article "Emigrants From Holland" in the Christian Intelligencer" (1847). *Van Raalte Papers: 1840-1849*. 264.

[https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp\\_1840s/264](https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1840s/264)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Van Raalte Papers at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Van Raalte Papers: 1840-1849 by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@hope.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@hope.edu).

August 12, 1847

Another article by the Rev. Thomas De Witt, entitled, "Emigrants From Holland," in the Christian Intelligencer, p. 18, reporting on the considerable number of emigrants who have arrived in New York during the last three months.

"Two settlements will be formed, composed mainly of those connected with the Secession from the Reformed Church of Holland, with whom one leading motive is the free, full and unembarrassed exercise of their faith and worship, as well as the attainment of a wider scope for the exercise of their industry, and reaping the fruits thereof."

He reports on Rev. Van Raalte who "by the advice of judicious friends," chose a tract in western Michigan. According to Van Raalte in his last report to De Witt 700 or 800 persons have arrived in the settlement.

Mr. James Forrester has raised more than \$600 for the erection of a sawmill in the Holland Colony.

H. P. Scholte is now in St. Louis.

...are many fail on this man may see the pearl of price without he possesses it; may take hold of the yet not hold it right. To conquer sin, he to realize a personal interest in all the redemption. It is the felt sense of par-Mediator, through whom alone we have od. It is this that is the great instrument nishing the sin of the nature, and for render- d delightful the most difficult duties of re-

...was the child of many prayers. Here ee the nature of primitive religion. His yed for him—much, long, often, earnestly. sins, she felt there was One that could and she believed God would answer her ist what we feel now. What is the rent to do? He sees his son go astray He knows if they do not repent they le admonishes, but in vain. And perhaps et consciousness that the imperfections e, in the presence of those who had so nities of observing it, have had a ten- vince them that there was not much in ven now would go far to nullify all he the subject. Agonizing, grieving, he night. The salvation of his children r on his heart. But what is it he can g he can do—and this is the blessed r every human sorrow—he can carry There he can pray for them, and their behalf; which not only tends to mind, but brings him the assurance heard—is heard, in fact, by a prayer- tyer-answering God. Who can tell, ade the experiment, what a privilege a reflection, that while our children wandering, perhaps after the course re is something going on in secret of nothing. On their account thanks rs are rising up to God; there is a

...we see the benevolence of the divine government. God's law requires well-doing. Secondly; there is a propriety in those dispensations of divine providence which seem most trying. It may be that the harvest arising from doing good is long in coming to maturity. But after all, it comes to ma- turity in due time, the best time. Thirdly; a sowing time shall be followed by a reaping time in doing good. They are connected in the purpose of God. Fourthly; the whole divine system in regard to man is so con- trived as to bring faith into exercise, and keep it in exercise even unto the end. Lastly; let us see to it that we do not, by intermitting our efforts in doing good, fail, at last; of our reward.

3 EMIGRANTS FROM HOLLAND.

We some time since adverted to the current of emigra- tion setting in from Holland. The number of emigrants thence for three months past has been very considerable. Two settlements will be formed, composed mainly of those connected with the Secession from the Reformed Church of Holland, with whom one leading motive is the free, full and unembarrassed exercise of their faith and worship, as well as the attainment of a wider scope for the exercise of their industry, and reaping the fruits thereof. Dr. Van Baalte reached here late last fall, and in the course of the winter selected, by the advice of judicious friends, a tract for settlement in the western part of the State of Michigan, in the county of Ottawa, bordering on Lake Michigan. A township was formed at the recent session of the legislature of Michigan, to be named Holland, in reference to the set- tlers who are to occupy it. By the last intelligence from Dr. Van Baalte, it appears that as many as seven or eight hundred persons, adults and children, had already arrived, since which time others have proceeded to join them. Three settlements, in the neighborhood of a few miles from each other, are commenced, which will in a short time grow into villages. A sum of upwards of six hundred dol- lars has been contributed by a number of friends here, through the praiseworthy efforts of Mr. James Forrester, to aid in the building of a sawmill, the early erection of which was much needed to prepare dwellings for shelter by the opening of winter.

Dr. H. P. Scholte left this city with his family, for St.

"SELL NOT A BEAR'S SKIN BE- FORE IT IS SHORN," is an old proverb, which many of the present day. Ami- ting money, how often do we great profits to be obtained by a some new speculation, which sense of mankind, as the Sil- ness—the Mulberry business— many ministers got trapped, mulberries for souls. Yes, the very man who should teach earthly things, has been so fired tions, (though not much of a calc as if the devil had taken him up mountain, showed him all the kit the glory of them, and talked to h as he talked to Jesus Christ, only, the minister than (the Master, he but still distinguished honor, that Majesty."

But ministers are not alone shall get so much; plant that much—I shall then be worth anything to the Church, I shall be Stop! Stop! Stop! Those chicke That corn is yet in the blade. Wh by selling church mice; or by robb God? You are "reckoning witha proverb has it, "spending your Mich summer noon." How often are you scattereth, and yet increaseth?" bread is to get religion first:—to be vent in spirit, serving the Lord?" says, to commit your actions to Arg and to Briareus, with his hundred yourself and all your doings on the Having told him your plans, tell your own counsel. The fabled hel makes a man to go invisible, is secrecy is; the execution of it; and if nobo doimg, nobody can hinder what you do

SEMINARIES AND FOREIGN MISSIONS, ological seminaries in the United have been sent into the field during whom 97 only have gone to heathen

Aug 12, 1847

Christian Intelligencer

August 12, 1847

p. 18

# Christian Intelligencer.

rons of grace, praying that they may be called, and finally and eternally saved. In all ages has found God a willing Father in this behalf. He mercifully condescends to such prayers. How often do we see striking instances of the salvation of souls? How often do we pray? This has been the case in all ages. Hence the words of the prophet to the mother of Augustine—*Woman; it is not possible that a child should perish.*"

K. W.

## Christian Intelligencer.

Thursday, August 12, 1847.

### BORNEO.

Attention of our readers was called to the missionaries in Borneo, in our last number. They are struggling with difficulties, reduced in number. Mr. and Mrs. Youngblood, and Mr. ... on the even tenor of their way, undaunted. In the midst of the trial of their dear hope, unwilling to relinquish the path directed their path, and where toil has been expended, they appeal to their Heavenly Father for aid, and holding on to their faith shall remain open. It is refreshing to see such devotedness and self-denial, in their souls, while their hope of aid is deferred. Let their statement and prayer be considered. Let it not be said that their perseverance is owing to the unwillingness or slow-sustained them and encourage them in their arduous preparation in this field, the good seed, shall not response be wanting, and their hands be upheld by the Father and especially a missionary physician and well-adapted minds in our midst shall go." The absence of Mr. ... account of pressing reasons, the Father makes a great breach in their mission from Singapore the latter part of the year of St. Helena to place his

Louis, about the middle of June. After settling his family temporarily there, he purposed to visit Iowa and its vicinity, in order to select a tract of considerable extent for settlement. An association was formed some time since in South Holland, Utrecht, &c., in reference to a settlement in the United States, of which Dr. Scholte was chosen President. Considerable means are furnished by the association, and there is a fair prospect of speedy formation of a large and prosperous colony. A large number of emigrants have arrived there during the winter and spring at St. Louis, and remain there and in its vicinity, until the tract of land for their settlement is procured. Several ministers have come on, viz., Dom. Spina and Vandermulen for the colony in Michigan, and Dom. Buddy and Zonne for St. Louis.

Cordial thanks are given to those individuals who voluntarily, without personal solicitation, addressed to them contributions for the relief of sick and destitute Hollanders during the past winter and spring. These sums have all been carefully appropriated, and the details of many cases relieved through this instrumentality would satisfy the minds and gladden the hearts of the contributors. T. D. W.

### THE NETHERLAND IMMIGRANTS,

It appears, have made provision for their wants in the land of their adoption: for they brought with them "their own physicians, schoolmasters, apothecaries, architects, mechanics"—in fact everything necessary to form a perfect society; everything but—LAWYERS.

This speaks well for the religion of the community, inasmuch as it evinces a peaceful spirit. It could not be want of forethought, for they thought of everything but this. Only it would seem they had lived so habitually under the influence of Christian principles, they foresaw no need of calling in other assistance to vindicate their rights, or settle their disputes. It is to be hoped the climate will not alter them; and that they will not do as some, who, when they have nothing else to quarrel about, quarrel for quarreling's sake.

I no sooner saw this lack in the list of officers brought with them, (i. e., men to settle their disputes,) than I said, "There are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and my companions' sake, will I now say, Peace be within thee." K W

tion of our country is probably worth more than the heathen world six hundred million dollars, more than that of our own. It is also estimated that it costs about 100 dollars on our own country lands.

### POLITICAL DOMINANCE.

There is in many ministers of the gospel a propensity to dabble in politics, and even to enter on times and occasions which all will admit to be unbecoming. For this it is difficult to account, especially when we consider the true end and nature of their office. It is still more extraordinary is, few ministers of the gospel enter on such subjects. But so it is.

"All quit their sphere, and rush to the aid of the government. And even here the rev. gentlemen do not expect of them, make for the upper skies, calm and serene; they rather rush into the storm, down here, which are full of clouds and of contending elements, amid the noisome mists that rise from the damp, boggy, and gloomy world. There is no convincing such interference in political affairs hurts the cause of the gospel, and hinders the success of their own preaching. A preacher never utters a political sentiment, unless he offends some one of his hearers. Thus, amid all the abuses of the Roman Catholic Church, have had enough to do; but happily for the world, the great object he had in view was the conversion of men to a totally different state of mind, to know anything among them but Jesus crucified.

It would be well if these political dominion consider the words of Mr. Burke, that *men and things*; and remember Mr. Burke's mistakes.

"No sound should be heard in the church, but the voice of Christian charity. The cause of the civil government gains as little as that of the fusion of duties. Those who quit their proper sphere, assume what does not belong to them, are, in part ignorant both of the character they assume, and of the character they assume. Wholly unacquainted with the world, in which they are so fond of meddling, and unacquainted in all its affairs, on which they presume with much confidence, they have nothing of political science than...

Christian Intelligencer

August 12, 1847

p. 18