

RE. VAN RAALTE

Died on November 7. Van Raalte belonged to the co-founders of the Christian-Reformed Church in The Netherlands. After having labored in the service of the gospel [having been a minister], in Ommen, Overijssel, he went to America, and settled in Michigan with a number of Dutch emigrants. Here he worked for the physical and spiritual well-being, especially of those who came from our country and settled in Michigan. He was their teacher, shepherd, counselor, and friend. The colony of Holland owes everything (beside to God) to van Raalte's presence there.

His death created great sadness among his many friends, and cast the city of Holland in deep sadness. Among the distinguished people [in high places] who conducted his body to the grave, were the vice-president of the United States, Mr. F. W. Ferry, and his brother, Mr. W. M. Ferry. At the order of the mayor of Holland all activities were halted on the afternoon of the funeral. Seventy coaches, as well as many interested people followed the body. All public officials, and ministers, teachers of the various schools and their students followed the hearse. In the church of the departed teacher [preacher] the entrance and some of the pillars were hung with crepe. Here the funeral service was conducted, ~~by~~ first in Dutch by Rev. Pieters and then in English by Rev. Philp. Rev. Uiterwijk spoke at the cemetery and Dr. Crispel offered a prayer.

Dr. Van Raalte was a man with a generous<sup>us</sup>, loving ~~heart~~<sup>heart</sup>, who brought a blessing wherever he ~~went~~ came. In him the Christian Reformed Church loses a hero. May his place be filled in a worthy manner!

(1876)  
From: Short Biographical Sketches of Famous Contemporaries Who Died This Year,  
collected by J. W. Margadant (Nijmegen, F. E. MacDonald, 1877).