

GRADUATE COUNCIL
UNION COLLEGE

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

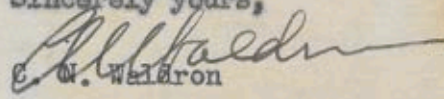
April 27, 1934

Dear Mrs. Mynderse:

This will acknowledge the receipt of the diploma of Herman Vedder of the Class of 1799 which you placed in our hands as a loan with the understanding that the family can call it back any time they wish.

I am placing a copy of this letter with the diploma so that there will be no misunderstanding, and I thank you again very much for letting us possess under these restrictions this, the oldest diploma we have.

Sincerely yours,

Signed -  E. W. Waldron

Secretary

Mrs. Herman V. Mynderse
224 N. Ballston Avenue
Scotia, New York

Rev. Herman Vedder, Class 1799.

Died at Gallatin, Wy. June 29, 1873 aet 93.
Born in town of Rotterdam, Seneca Co., Wy.
Nov. 17, 1777. He was over 60 years the
pastor of this church at Gallatin. At one
time he pastored ~~eight~~ ^{three} churches for eight
years, - Gallatin, Tugh Kanie (Col. Co.)
and Tindilthgo. He was most me-
ticulous in keeping records. His
parish was a small world, for during
his ministry, with horse and buggy,
he traveled upwards of 150,000 miles.

3d Report
1841 removed to Athens, N.Y.
[W. N. P. Bailey, Union 84 - was pastor
of this same Albany church, and
left it to go to Athens]. Other
fields of work are given in Corwin's
Manual.

REV. HARMEN VEDDER 1790

The ministerial services next enjoyed by this church were those of the Rev. Harmen Vedder, who is expected this day to lay the corner stone of our new edifice, being the oldest living minister who has regularly served this congregation. He labored here in connection with his other charges, from seven to eight years, till about 1814.

Brief Statemtns of Facts relating to Linlithgow Church from its origin to 1854, printed in the Hudson Daily Star on Dec. 5, 1854.
Prof. Pearson's Scrap Book p. 69

CLASS OF 1799

HARMAN VEDDER

The first name or title of this church (Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in Gallatin, Columbia Co., N. Y.) was that of "Stissick" (probably "Stissing," from the mountain at the South), the second that of "Ancram," before the town was divided in 1830; and for many years, in its old age, it has borne the fresh and verdant name of the "Greenbush Church." It is popularly known as the "Vedder" church, after its longtime pastor, Rev. H. Vedder.

Rev. Harman Vedder served as pastor from 1803 until 1864. He was a graduate of Union College, in the Class of 1799, and died in the parsonage of this church in 1873.

FROM History of Columbia Co., N. Y. pp. 414-415
Franklin Ellis
Everts & Ensign
Philadelphia 1878.

Vedder, Herman

From: Rotterdam, N.Y.

Last residence: Eliatin, N.Y.

99

Records show one

Harmon Veeder(also borne as Herman)

Pvt. in Capt. George G. Eaker's Co.,

19th Regt. (Getman's) N.Y.Militia.

Commencement of service: Sept 7, 1814

Expiration of service: Nov.14, 1814

Vedder Herman:- Class of 1799

~~In Centennial Catalog he is put in the Class of 1790.~~

He was born in Rotterdam, Schenectady Co. New York Nov. 17, 1777

Studied under Rev. Dr. Dirck Romeyn and Solomon Froeligh, D.D.

Graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, Class of 1801

Licensed by the Classis of Albany, N.Y. Reformed Dutch Church in 1801

He was pastor at the Reformed Churches of Greenbush, N.Y. and Taghkanic (1803, 1850). Also supplied Linlithgo, N.Y. during 1806-1814. Greenbush was later called Gallatin. He moved to the Gallatin Church parsonage Dec. 25, 1803 and lived his entire life there, his death occurring on June 29, 1873. He was the active pastor of the Gallatin Church for Sixty Years.

Hermanus Vedder, Class of 1799

There were two members of the Class of 1799, both ministers, who made great records, both in longevity and in pastoral service. Rev. Henry Ostrander who graduated at 18, lived to be ninety-one and had a pastorate at Katsbaan, near Saugerties, of fifty years. But Rev. Hermanus Vedder of this class, who received his degree when he was twenty-one, lived to the age of ninety-six years and had a pastorate in the Livingston Manor church, in Columbia county of sixty-one years.

Herman Vedder was born in Rotterdam, N.Y. and after leaving college he studied theology under Dr. Dirck Romeyn, at the time pastor of the Dutch church in Schenectady and Prof. Solomon Froeligh of the Dutch church. His great-grandfather had come from Holland and settled in the valley of the Mohawk with the Yates, Van Vrankens, Sanders, Schermerhorns, and others noted in church and state.

The church which he served so long and faithfully is to this day popularly known as the "Vedder" church. In the beginning of his ministry his field of labor embraced almost two hundred square miles. He lived and labored up to the time of his decease in full possession of all his physical and mental abilities. In the old burying ground around the "Vedder" church, where the legible tombstones date back to 1770, is an imposing monument to the memory of this servant of God, the inscription on which tells of his long life and of his pastorate in that church of sixty-one years.

Union College Student Was a Pioneer Pastor In Columbia County

QCSLO47799 J014107 - N-C087



BENEATH STately ELMS in the Gallatinville cemetery sleeps the Rev. Hermon Vedder, who after his graduation from Union College in 1799, became the pastor of three Columbia County churches. The Dutch Reformed Church at Gallatinville is still called the Vedder Church in his memory and the Pastor is buried beneath the monument (above) near the church he founded.

In the year 1799 it was customary for the graduates of newly-formed Union College, upon receiving their degrees from that institution, to go on to the study of law, or to establish themselves in the mercantile business.

One member of that early class, however, did neither of these things. A tall, dark-haired young man Hermon Vedder, possessed not only a brilliant but a serious mind. To his way of thinking amassing a fortune or perhaps some fame in the pursuit of a law career was nothing when balanced against the opportunity of serving as a minister of the gospel.

Accordingly, he began the study of theology under the tutelage of the Rev. Dirck Romeyn and the Rev. S. Froeligh and on September 29, 1801 he was licensed to preach by the Classis of Albany.

Received Three Churches

Dutch Reformed churches in that day were few and far between. Ministers were even more scarce and so his first assignment was not one church but three, at Gallatin (then called Greenbush), Taghkanic, and Linlithgo. He travelled the distance from one to the other on horseback, over muddy, rutted roads, and sometimes to cut off distance, he went across country using nothing but his own excellent sense of direction to get him from one place to another.

For eight years Pastor Vedder carried on, but each church continued to grow in numbers and there was more and more work for the minister. He then realized if he were to serve efficiently, he must give up one of his charges. Accordingly, he asked the Classis to send a new minister to Linlithgo. He continued on at Gallatin and Taghkanic.

During the next forty years, the tall, dark man grew stooped and his hair turned slowly grey. His eyesight bothered him and he had to have a pair of small rectangular spectacles made. Despite his physical shortcomings, he married Miss Harriet Van Vliet and fathered seven daughters and one son. These were years of both hardship and happiness for the Reverend Vedder as he served his two churches.

Retired at 85

Then once again he found the duties of serving rural congregations too onerous to be successfully carried out. He therefore resigned the pastorate of the Taghkanic church and the people of Gallatin were delighted. Now they could have their beloved pastor all to themselves and for the next twenty-five years they did. Until he was eighty-five years old he was pastor of the Gallatin church, in all, for sixty years.

When he had come there services were being held in a log cabin, but during his pastorate he had the present church erected. So closely identified had he become with it that, although it was formally known as the Gallatin Reformed church, it was called Vedder's Church and strangers asking for it by its more proper name were apt to receive blank looks.

And so it is still known today, and probably always will be. It stands a memorial to the strength, courage and the tenacity of this pioneer minister who preferred the life of a humble country ministry to the inducements of a more worldly career and who, in the end, built for himself a more lasting memorial than many of the famous lawyers or merchants of his day.

Columbia University
in the City of New York

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Respectfully referred to

J.R.B. Jr.

With the Compliments of

MILTON HALSEY THOMAS

Curator of Columbiana

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His character was marked in an unusual degree by a constant and impressive goodness. Calm in temperament, kind in heart, exemplary in piety, courtly in manner, faithful in every good word and work, he preached the gospel, not only with his lips, but also beautifully with his life. This secured to him so long the affection of successive generations of parishioners, until those whom he had baptized in their infancy had become the gray-headed worshipers who bowed before him as their pastor still.

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Rev. Hermanus Vedder
1777-1873



Gallatin, Mt. Resd. Church
organized 1746
Rev. Vedder here 1803-1873
Union College 1799

U.A.M. Alumni NOV. 1918
1799

Rev. Dr. W. N. P. Dailey, 84, has sent us a picture of the Rev. HERMAN VEDDER, 1799, together with the picture of the Reformed Church at Gallatin, N. Y. which he dedicated in 1824. Pictures of these old Alumni of ours are rare, and it is a delight to get the item Dr. Dailey sends.

Rev. HARMAN VEDDER, 1799, a resident of Gallatin, was a member of the Philomathean Society. He died in 1873.

Philomathean Catalogue 1830.

CLASS OF 1799

HERMAN VEDDER

Married Ariantje Van Vranken, born May 9, 1779.
He was a graduate of Union College in 1799
Licensed as a minister of the Reformed Church
in 1801
Died in Gallatin, Columbia County, June 29, 1873,
aged 96 years, the oldest pastor of that denomination,
full of pious labors, and through life greatly beloved.
He had been in the active ministry 62 years.

Early History of Schenectady p. 145
John Sanders
1879.

IV
Reverend Herman Vedder of the class of 1799 at Union,
graduated here in 1801. His record seems to be complete
except for the years between 1864 and 1873 when he died. OCT 24 1933
I should like to know his residence and occupation in these
years and also the place of his death. From: New Brunswick Theological Sem

CLASS OF 1799

HERMAN VEDDER

His daughter, Anna M. married Aaron Mynderse.
He died September 24, 1834, leaving one son
and three daughters.

Early History of Schenectady p. 130
John Sanders
1879.

GAZETTE

Old Diploma To Be Shown NOV 21 1933

Antiques Displayed in Consistory Room of First Reformed Church

A diploma of the class of 1799 of Union College, the third class to be graduated from the college, to Herman Mynderse, grandfather of the late Dr. Herman V. Mynderse, together with the little hair trunk which Herman took to Union College with him, will be loaned by Mrs. Herman V. Mynderse to the exhibit of antiques being held today and tomorrow in the consistory room of the First Reformed Church. The diploma is signed by Eliphalet Potter, first president of Union College. The exhibition has been arranged by group three of the women's society, of which Mrs. Clayton Johnson Potter and Mrs. John Weber are leaders. Miss May Hanbridge Moon is chairman in charge of the exhibition.

There will be old furniture, silver, china, documents and many other things which are of particular interest as they are mostly connected with the history of the city and its families.

A silver church service, dated 1800, will be shown. This consists of a wine tankard and baptismal bowl used by Rev. Andrew Oliver of Springfield, Mass. About 20 Windsor chairs will be included, and will show the various types of this chair. There will be several interesting antique costumes and several of those in charge of the exhibition and tea will dress in antecessors clothes.

Mrs. William Underhill, who will pour tea at the table, will wear the wedding gown of Mrs. Robert Furman, grandmother of Miss Katherine Furman. Mrs. Verne Waldo Smith will wear her grandmother's gown which has a quilted skirt and silk bodice, and bonnet to match. Miss Laurana Hoag will wear a green brocade with tortoise shell jewelry. Others assisting at the teas, which will be held both afternoons, will be Mrs. John Marcellus, Mrs. James H. Crapp, Mrs. Tom Moore, Mrs. George Van Vranken, Mrs. Van Furman and Miss Elizabeth Toll. An historic china tea service will be used on the table.

Alumni

July-Aug. 1799 U.C.M. 1934

We are indebted to Mrs. Herman V. Mynderse for the loan of the diploma of HERMAN VEDDER. This is signed by the trustees and by John B. Smith, President, and John Taylor and Andrew Yates, Professors. The badge of the Theman Society is attached.

The Rev. Mr. Vedder was graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1801 and served the Reformed churches of Taghkanic and Linlithgo in Columbia Co., N. Y. In 1803 he moved to the Parsonage of the Gallatin church and lived there until his death at the age of ninety-five.

HERMAN VEDDER

Biographical Record

Born at Rotterdam, N. Y., November 17, 1777. A.B. (Union, 1799). Studied under D. Romeyn and S. Froeligh. Licensed by Classis of Albany, 1801. Greenbush and Taghkanic, N. Y., 1803-50. Also supplied Linlithgo, N. Y., 1806-14. Greenbush (Gallatin, N. Y.), 1850-64. Died at Gallatin, N. Y., June 29, 1873.

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His ministry of 72 years was contemporaneous with the rise and progress of the America Republic. He remembered the Revolutionary war and was keenly interested in the Civil War. For many years he was the wise spiritual adviser in a territory which is now occupied by ten churches.

See Manual, 1902.

Alumni

1799

The Reformed Church Classis of Hudson met Sept. 22 in the Gallatin Dutch Church where the Rev. HERMAN VEDDER was pastor for 63 years. Dr. Vedder's name is on the Memorial Chapel pulpit along with that of Dr. B. A. MYNDERSE, Union 1849, and Dr. H. V. MYNDERSE, Union 1884. —W.N.P.D.

81, 1. Cl. N.B.; Franklin Furnace, 81-4, Owasco, 84-9, Linlithgo (at Livingston), 89-1900. w. c.

VAUGHAN, WILLIAM (brother of Jonah Vaughan), b. in Maine; R.C. 1880, N.B.S. 83, 1. Cl. N.B.; South Bergen, 83-6, Knox Memorial, N.Y.C. 1886—

Vedder, Edwin. R.C. 1841, N.B.S. 44, 1. Cl. Schenectady; Little Falls, 45-9, S.S. Glenville, 2d, 49-51, Berne, 1st, and Beaverdam, 51, Beaverdam, 51-5, Middleburgh, and Schoharie Mt., 55-63, Gallupville and Knox, 63-8, Gallupville, 68-71, Schoharie, 71-3, Jerusalem, 73-85; emeritus.

Vedder, Henry, 1. 1803.

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But the beauty and joy of his declining days, as of his entire life, was his simple and unwavering faith in Jesus Christ. Only three weeks before his death he said to a ministerial friend sitting by his side, with deep

Hermanus Vedder A/B 1799

Hermanus Vedder

F.B.
1799