5-26-1858

Letter to John Butler and Eliza (Smith) Butler from Isaac Butler, Sarah A. Butler and Mary Butler

Isaac Butler
Sarah A. Butler
Mary Butler

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May the 26th 1868

Dear Brother and Sister, it has been some time since I wrote to you, and while it is raining I will try to write some to you. I received your kind letter on the 13th which contained the last payment on that land. I have not said it yet but will in a few days. We are about as well as command and that is nothing to brag on. I have concluded to quit farming for the present and try something else. I am not short enough to hire hands and if I could I don't think I could make anything out of it. I have sold a part of my property and will sell the rest of the balance. What I shall get is. I cannot sell at present, but will write to you as soon as I determine your command of us not writing to you often. I will confess I do not write as often as I should being unable to work hard. I have to stick to it the closer. But from the very words you do not get more than one half the me meaning of that. I think I have received about one letter every 10 months. I think I could complain without grounds. It is strange that so many letters get lost.

Your loving Brother and Sister

J. A. Butler

J. A. Butler
we have had a very dry spring until lately, it has been raining for several days and the job is thoroughly wet. I think we have the promise of good crops this season. Wheat is very high here at this time. I sold 30 bushels at 1.10 per bushel taken at the door of my store, oats at 1.60 per bushel sold at the door of my store. Cattle are not as high as they have been, cows and calves sold at 35 to 40. I rented all 24 hogs and sold 24 hogs at about the same as they have been for the last year or two. Mother is at my house at this time, my farm yard and garden for one of her ages. Mrs. Jukes has about a few days ago Edward Brown and had near all boxes with the flour, but was mending the last I had from there. Jukes and Mrs. Jukes are well. Mrs. Pegg and couple of others once all the time. Eliza and her husband are in good health. She lives with her husband most of the time. She intended living in Manhattan as soon as she loses a house up over a little town of Manhattan as in hearing very fast. Considering the density of town you see the strength of density being seen, but while every body of building it takes a great amount of lumber. Father Murphy lost his wife about 2 weeks ago. She left a little boy about 3 weeks old. She had 32, just. I believe, John Murphy has just got over a bad spell of the sickness really all his family have had it. Since people

Old Uncle Elijah Davidson and Aunt Peggy are getting old and feeble. I think it is not likely that they will stand it many years. Uncle Elijah is still living with them. It is not married yet. There is a great many fruit trees killed this spring and we do not know the cause and what it will be. For out in Amyka valley there is large rows of oak trees that are killed it is not likely that such a thing has occurred since the formation of these trees. It is 10 years ago, we are very anxious about whether we are to be admitted into the union as yet. I suppose we will never be. Republicans have pretty high in Oregon at present. The opposition to the Democracy are organized a party and take the name of National Democrats. There is now 3 parties in Oregon. The Old head is still firm in Nationalism and the Black Republic. It is strong, as probable judge Isaac Smith was nominated for Representatives of this county. I haveitamin for Clerk of the Court and myself for Assessor for this county. An election came off on the 1st Monday in May. We will know pretty soon what will have to take a trip up Salt River or not. I will come back about the first of May. God bless him. He is down in the cold and Canary about all over the house and yard. Climbing up into chairs and doors and can almost get up in
May the 26th 1858

Dear Brother and Sister it has been sometime since I wrote to you, and while it is raining I will try to write some to you. I received your kind letter on the 23rd which contained the last payment on that land. I have not cashed it yet but will in a few days we are about as well as common and that is nothing to brag on I have concluded to quit farming for the present and try something else I am not stout enough to carry on a farm as it should be, and it is nearly impossible to hire hands, and if I could I don't think I could make anything at it. I have sold a part of my property and will sell the most of the balance. What I shall go at, I cannot tell at present, but will write to you as soon as I determine you complain of us not writing to you oftener I will confess I do not write as often as I should being unable to work hard I have to stick to it the closer, but from the way you write you do not get more than one half the we write if that. I think I have received about one letter every 10 months. I think I could complain on those grounds it is strange that so many letters get mislaid. we have had a very drye spring until lately it has been raining for several days and the ground is thorowly wet. I think we have the promise of good crops this season. wheat is very high here at this time I sold 30 bushels at $1.75 per bushel taken at the door of my Granery. Oats 1.00 Cattle are not so high as they have been Cows and Calves 35 to 40. 2 year olds steers 220. 2 year old heifers 25 horses are about the same as they have been for the last year or two. Mother is at my house at this time spinning yarn She is as well as common and quite stout for one of her age Iras folks were well a few days ago Edward Ground folks have nearly all been sick with the feaver but was mending the last I heard from them. Isacc Smiths are well except Peggy she complains of side most all the time. Elijahs wife and children are in usuall health She lives with Thomas Lucas the most of the time. She intends living in Monmouth as soon as she can get a house put up our little town of Monmouth is improveing very fast considering the scarcity of lumber you may think strange of lumber being scarce but where everybody is building it takes a great quantity of lumber. James Murphy lost his wife about 2 weeks ago She left a little boy about 2 week old She had 32 fits I believe. John E. Murph has just got over a hard spell of the feaver nearly all of his family have had a spell of feaver Old uncle Elijah Davidson and Aunt Peggy are getting old and feble I think it is not likely that they will
stand it many years Alexander is still liveing with them and is not married yet. There is a great many fruit trees killed this spring and we donot know the cause and I am told that out in Umpka Valley there is large groves of oak trees that are killed it is not likely that such a thing has ever accured since the formation of these trees 75 or 100 years ago. we are very anxious about whether we are to be admitted into the union or not. I suppose we shall hear soon. Politicks run pretty high in Oregon at present. the opposition to Democracy have organized a party and takes the name of National Democrats. there is now 3 parties in oregon the Old hard the Soft or (National) and the black Republic. Ira is acting as probate judge Isaac Smith was nominated for Representative of this County. T. H. Hutchinson for clerk of the Court and myself for Assessor for this County. Our Election comes off the 1st Monday in next month we will know pretty soon whether will have to take a trip up Salt River or not I will now tell about my little girl Mary Elen she is 13 months old and can run about all over the house and yard. Climb up into chairs and down and can almost get up in my lap without help She minds the chickens out of the house and does all the mischief she can, and to make a long story short she is hard to beat we think she is very smart when she gets old enough we will get her likeness taken and send back to the states you must wirte to me as soon as you get this and tell James to write and William also it has been a long time since I got a letter from either of them I have writen this letter in a hurry and you must escuse all mistakes and bad writing for the lack of time I must come to a close we remain your loveing brother and sister

J.M. Butler
Sa.A. Butler
M.E. Butler