1-3-1863

Letter to John Butler from Isaac Butler, Sara A. Butler and Mary Butler

Isaac Butler
Sarah A. Butler
Mary Butler

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/butlertranscripts

Recommended Citation
Butler, Isaac; Butler, Sarah A.; and Butler, Mary, "Letter to John Butler from Isaac Butler, Sara A. Butler and Mary Butler" (1863). Butler Family Letters (Transcripts). 66.
https://digitalcommons.wou.edu/butlertranscripts/66

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Butler Family Letters at Digital Commons@WOU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Butler Family Letters (Transcripts) by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@WOU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@wou.edu.
of the war until there is a permanent peace restored the Union as our forefathers made it. I think the President’s message is a very weak thing. There is hundreds of men in Oregon that can beat it bad but I do not wish to do anything on one word that will have the least tendency towards weakening the bonds of the government.

Now my brother, I want you when you get this letter just sit down and write the long letter and tell me all the news that you think will interest me. I think I would have sent you our letters last time but I have had considerable back luck lately. I lost two thousand dollars in a debt that was owing to me last winter. All we now could get was a ten percent of what we are defrauded but if we follow the example of our master that has given before we will need to part no more till all my brothers write to me in your letter. Tell all you know about Joseph and William. I have motion in time and again to all of you but have not received an answer.

Little Dory, Ellen, Dora tell Uncle John that I go to Sunday School every Sunday and get pretty good. I think I have yet the privilege of writing to Oregon and his name is Crip.

Dell, Ell, Butler, Sarah, Ann Butler

Dear Brother,

As it has been about four years since I received a letter from you if you I will write to you once more and tell if I can get an answer. This leaves myself in good health, but the family are not so well. My wife has been very sickly for four or five years last winter she came my new diny with the smallpox but kind Providence spared her life for which I feel very thankful. We have but one little child a girl about five years old, a pretty fair skin and a long hair and a great pet. She has both skin, black eyes, and black hair. I think she is the prettiest of the same. Mr. Findell is rather tall. My fair skin, Auburn hair and blue eye, and a perfect team to when in good health we are now living in Dallas, Texas. Now elected the Juff of this county last June for the term of two years, the law requires me to keep my office as the county seat was the reason that I left my farm. I think my office will pay about one thousand dollars per year, and this is five times as much as I can make on my farm. Brother so now living with me. I’m in good health. The last time I heard from them Edward, Benjamin, and Eliza were well. The last time I saw them, I kept Eliza. She looks very well, but I am in hopes that other
A year or two will probably get shorter as it is about the turn of life with her, Robert and others. He is both clever and wise as well as common except Polly she is not quite as common for her children and grandchildren are well. She has married again and lives on the same place that Robert left. Elisabeth is simple and gentle and active but well for one in her place. She is now living in Vermont. My house is not too far from her, and she is getting eight dollars per month for her property here in Boston. I heard yesterday that she was talking of going out to temporary duties. This winter at Robert's residence, both Robert and Daniel and Aunt Polly are still living but both are getting very sick. The rest of the family and connections are well as far as I know except John. Money school got some money from a horse. It's the other day and broke his leg, it was thought at first that he would not recover but it will probably recover. The health of the country is very good and has been for some time. There has been some scare, but some few cases of the fever but as a general thing it has been remarkably healthy here in Boston. We have had one of the finest falls on record and winter so far that I have seen in any country. We had very little rain until Christmas, we had about two inches of snow the first night but by ten days the next morning it was all gone. Our stock took very fine, there are getting some better here than they were. But property is still very large. Bushes are rating from $50 to $100 dollars, lands are worth from 50 to 100 dollars per acre. About 20 to 25 dollars per bushel oats 50 to 75. They are $2 to 10 according to quality. Large horses 15 to 20, and other steers in proportion 30 to 35 per month. The people generally are quiet and more political parties are present. The Union party is the Secession a fall. There is some banning about abolitionists and quite a lot of brush. But the Union party is much the strongest. I am very much in hope that we will not have one of the troubles that you have seen east and South. It is hard enough to hear of the many and great fights, but the many thousand valuable lives of our country. The last news we have heard is very encouraging, but it may be the best we can do from the scene of action and the news are unreliable that it is very difficult to form correct conclusions as to what is going on or what is necessary to be done. My judgment is that the Union must be sustained. There is one thing certain we cannot get along with the Union divided. A house divided against itself cannot stand. I guess by this time you know that I am neither an abolitionist nor a Statesman. I can write better than I am a conservative man. One thing is in favor of a rigorous prevention...
Dallas Polk Co, Jan 3rd 1863

Dear Brother

As it has been about four years since I received a letter from any of you I will write to you once more and see if I can get an answer. this leaves myself in good health but my family are not so well my wife has been very sickley for four or five years last winter she came very near dieing with the sore throat but kind providence spared her life for which I feel very thankfull. we have but one little child a girl about five years old, a very promising and a very great pet, she has dark skin, black eyes, and black hair, we think she is the prettiest one of the name my wife is rather small very fair skin auburn hair and blue eyes and a perfect beauty when in good health, we are now liveing in Dallas Polk County. I was elected sheriff of this county last June for the term of two years, the law requires me to keep my office at the county seat was the reason that I left my farm, I think my office will pay about one thousand dollars per year, and this is five times as much as I can make on my farm Mother is now liveing with Ira she was in good health the last time I heard from them Edward Grounds family were well the last time I saw them except Eliza she looks very bad but I am in hopes that after a year or two she will probably get stouter as it is about the turn of life with her. Robert and Luther are both almost men, and are both out in the mines east of the mountains Isaac Smiths family are all as well as common except Peggy she is not quite so well as common for her Elijahs widow and children are well. She has married again and lives on the same place that Elijah left Elizabeth Huchinson is still single and getting along tolerable well for one in her fix she is now liveing in Monmouth in my house the rent costs her nothing, and she is getting eight dollars per month for her property here in Dallas I heard yesterday that she was talking of going out to Umpka valley to stay this winter at Robert Huchinsons, Ucle Elijah Davidson and Aunt Peggy are still liveing but both are getting very feeble the rest of the friends and connection are well as far as I know except John E. Murphy who got throwned from a horse the other day and broke his leg it was thought at first that he would not recover but he will probably recover. The health of the country is very good, and has
been for some time there has been some sore throat and some few cases of the fever but as a general thing it has been remarkably healthy here in Oregon, we have had one of the finest falls and winter so far that I ever seen in any country we had but very little rain untill Christmas, we had about two inches of snow the other night - but by ten o clock the next morning it was all gone our stock look very fine, times are getting some better than they they were but property is still very low large work horses are rating from 75.00 to 125.00 dollars, lands are worth from 2.00 to 10.00 dollars per acre wheat 75 to 1.00 dollar per bushel oats 50 cts sheep 3.00 to 10.00 according to quality large mares 100.00 to 150.00 and other things in proportion, wages 20.00 to 30.00 per month, the people generally are quiet with regard to political matters, there is but two political parties in Oregon at present the Union party and the Secession party there is some ranting abolitionist and quite a lot of secesh, but the Union party is much the strongest. I am very much in hopes that we will not have any of the troubles that you have in the east and south it is bad enough to hear of the many hard fought battles and the many thousand valueable lives of our Union army, the last news we have heard is very discourageing but it may all be the best we are so far from the scene of action and the news so unreliable that it is very difficult to form correct conclusions as to what is going on or what is necessary to be done, my prayer is that the Union may be sustained, there is one thing certain we never can get along with the Union divided a house divided against its self cant stand. I guess by this time you know that I am neither an abolitionist nor a southern fire eater I am a conservative man one that is in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war untill there is a permanent peace restored the Union as our fore fathers made it I think the presidents message is a very weak thing there is hundreds of men in Oregon that can beat it bad but I do not wish to do one thing or say one word that will have the least tendency towards weakening the arms of the government.

Now my Brother I want you when you get this letter just sit down and write me a long letter and tell me all the news that you think will interest me. I thought I would have sent you our likenesses long ago but I have had considerable bad luck lately I lost two thousand dollars in a debt that was owing to me last summer we all would like very much to see you all and talk with you face to face but of this we are deprived but if we follow the example of our master that has gone before we will meet to part no more tell all my Brothers to write to me in your letter tell me all you know about Joseph and William, I have written time and again to all of you but have not recieved an answer little Mary Ellen says tell uncle John that I go to sunday school every sunday and get pretty books and that I have got the prettiest little dog in Oregon and his name is trip

Isaac M. Butler

Sarah Ann Butler

Mary Ellen Butler