6-2-1855

Letter to John Butler and James Butler from Peter Butler and Rachel Butler

Peter Butler

Rachel Butler

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You have written a longer letter that you would like to speak about. Do you want to know about the contents of the letter? If the letter was written by your family, I can help you understand its meaning. It seems that you will have to go abroad to see me or some other person if it is of the most importance of your security. The letter states that you will have to go abroad to see me or some other person if it is of the most importance of your security. I hope you will not think you need to go abroad. If you have any further concern about it, you will have to go abroad. If you can and if not let it go. You wrote to me that in one of your diaries that Alexander Dunsil wanted me to write whether I knew anything of him. You said that you never met him but some time last fall your uncle Elijah Davidson saw him at the post office. He was then as busy as a beaver and as far as I know you said he was busy at the post office. The last thing I heard of him was last fall. I was at the store at this last meeting and he had not heard of Ockley since I last heard from him. He had not seen anything of him since last fall. I wish I could help you with something of our past. I believe it would be best to look at all my memories and except what is necessary for the support of the same and sell it on. I think best to sell it all together. Write me as you get this and let me know whether you have any plan to send us. You have not written to me for a long time. I hope you will not think me to be so Расы.
more you again together with all my old acquaintances and
Saracens, and I must submit to my fate and care
and how, now that I am a man, I have no more use for the
Saracens of my time. I would like to think that I was
wrong, but I must not lie about the matter. In any case,
I have my own ideas and plans. I have not heard from you
in a long time, and I am writing this letter to let you
know that I am still alive and well.

I have a mansion in the country, and I have
plenty of money. I have been fortunate in my
life, and I have had a good luck in my
property. I have been a Saracen, but I am now
a free man. I have a good land, and I am
happy. I have been fortunate in my
life, and I have been a Saracen, but I am now
a free man. I have a good land, and I am
happy. I have been fortunate in my
life, and I have been a Saracen, but I am now
a free man. I have a good land, and I am
happy.
Title: Letter to children [John & James Butler] from Peter and Rachel Butler (Polk County Oregon Territory)

Date: June 2, 1855

Transcription:

Polk County Oregon Territory June 2nd 1855

Dear Children

I have concluded to write you a joint letters in as much as you live near each other and can peruse it at any time you may wish to

I received your kind and interesting letters by the last mail John's dated 13th and James's dated 8th of March and was much please to hear that you was all still alive and injoying a reasonable portion of health, that greatest of earthly blefsings I was not only glad to hear that you was all in usual health, but that your kneighbours, friends and the country generally was in a prosperous condition and that you have facilities by which you can send your surplus's to the best markets in the worlrd and also in return can obtain the necefsaries of life at a fair price. I am always glad to hear of the prosperity of Illinois for it still feels like home to me, and if I never see illinois again I hope that I shall still hear of her prosperity. I sometimes think that if I had the means to bring us back and could prevail on some of our children to return with us, that I would be willing to go back home where we would have something to to live on, but when I think of the greate risk of returning together with the greate expence and the short time we will have to live and certenty of leaving some or all of our children here I shrink from the task and conclude that I had better do the best that I can although I do not expect that I shall ever see much more happinefs in this wourd for it does seem to me that cannot reconcile it to myself to never see you again together with all my old kneighbours and acquaintences, but I must submit to my fate as well as I can. If I was a young man or had the means to start on I could live much easeyer here than I could in Illinois for there I would have to work hard all summer to make the grain and all winter to feed it out and in the spring I would have to commence and go through the same operation the next year and so on as long as I lived but here we have plenty good grafs all the year except thare falls a snow (which it does somtimes) and civers up the grafs for from two to three weeks and then it is necessary to feed stock till the snow melts off. last winter the stock needed no feed all winter
and I never saw as fine grafs in all my life as thare is at this time in Oregon  Cattle increase faster here than any place that i was ever in, everything does well that lives on grafs, and the cows gives richer milk here than any other place that I ever saw but I dont believe that they give any more of it.  the country is good for small grain and tame grafs it is not a corn country but we can raise as much as we need we only want enough to fatten our pork and make a little bread for a varity.  You would perhaps like to heare something about your brothers and sisters I can only tell you that they are all in good health as far as I know.  they all seem to be geting along far beyond my expectation they have all got a greate deal more personal property than they had in illinois.  i told you in a former letter what they all had I believe except Isaac & myself, Isaac has five head of horses and six head of cattle and good claim of land (but he has no wife) now I will tell you what I have, I have my waggon and buggy two mules, three mares two year old colts and two young coauls  I have fifteen head of cattle six sheep thirty five hogs and a few things about the house not worth mentioning  I have bought a [qr?] of deeded land adjoining which thare is about [?6] acres of vacant land upon which I have built me a little house and expects to moove into it soon but shall not do anything more than to save it until I can enter it except Isaac should marry I owe four hundred dollars at ten percent intrest and have one hundred & seventy five owing to me at the same rate of intrest.  [?] so you see my situation exactly as it is John you say that Bladly has paid you the rent for last year if you can send it to me in any safe way I would be glad for you see that I am compelled to have some money inquire of Quimby if you can optain a treasury draft and send it to me, or if that cannot be done you perhaps could deposite the money in the Missorie Bank and send me the cirtificate of deposit, inquire of some person who you think know and do the best for me that you can, if you sell the place that Bladley lived on send me all you can after paying yourself for your trouble  you are aware I presume that Isaac let me have the land that I deeded to him.  if you sell it for any more than will refund to me the money that I paid for his claim I will give him the ballanc I will just state to you that the letter containnig the duplicate draft to Isaac Smith and me was not received for nearly five month after date and some time after the Bank failed so you see that if the draft had not here come to hand that we would have lost it, but we got the money on the draft and all is well You have writen in a former letter that you would lose three hundred dollars by going old [Griswauld's] security I want to know whither you mean by that that you will loose it by going his security to me or some other person if it is in consequence of your going his security to me.  i hope you will not give yourself any further concern about it as you shall never pay ones cent of it while you live get it of Griswould if you can and if not let it go

You wrote to me that is one of you did, that Alexander Turnbull wanted me to write whither I knew anything of his sone Robt  I have never seen him but sometime last fall your uncle Elijah Davidson saw him about 55 or 60 miles south of here with a pack train he was then as harty as a buck and as fat as a bear  You also said in your last letter that old Mr. [Chwin?] wanted me to write all that I knew about Charles I have not seen or heard anything of him since last Sept  I was at Micha Mathina's this last spring and he had not hear of Chaley since I saw him last Sept  boys I want you to consult with one another and if you thing best with some of our best friend whither it would be best to lay off all my timber land except what is necesfary for the support of the farm and sell it or if you think best to sell it all together write to me as soon as you ge this and let me know your opinions and I will write to you and tell you what to do  ferwell my dear children

John & James Butlers and families

Peter & Rachel Butler