8-10-1855

Letter to John Butler and Eliza (Smith) Butler from Edward Ground

Edward Ground

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Bloomington, August 19th 1855

My brother and sister,

I enclose the present opportunity of writing you a few lines this morning to let you in that we are all well at present and the friends and kinship are well at this time. I hope these few lines may come safe to hand and find you all enjoying the same blessing. We should be thankful to the grace of all good for his mercies and under implicit obedience to all his mandates. For the signs of the times indicate a speedy dissolution of all things. There fore it belongs to us to gather our in sulphur and smoke as we think not the day of man is come to.

I have nothing of importance to write to you at this time. This time produce is low and many scarce. Even wheat and oats crop is tolerable good but what is only one dollar per bushel at this time. But there is a probability of its being settled soon. It depends on the extent of the late discovered gold minery on the Columbia river near parts. The news have great excitement at this time about the minery. A great many are going but I have not got the fever yet. I had a boat 14 acres in wheat which I think will make about 500 bushels. I kept 1 acre in oats. The oats were good. I have a about 8 acres of corn that will make from 300 to 400 baskets. Peas are one year, more potatoes and string squashes, and 12 killing hogs. So you see I don't intend to starve.
I have 5 head of American horses, and 17 cows and calves, all to gather and plenty of grass for them to eat, yet I have not fed any stock since I have been in Oregon except work horses and farming hays. I will not say any thing about the country, since you will get a large soon. George Dixie I shall hear from him, and any letters of Lucas's will start for St. Louis, August and this year you will get at least all the news. I must show my letter to a leg forwarding time. I fear the mail will go out before I get to the office. I write a general soon and you all the news. The store is getting almost as crowded as it can be. I have not had a letter in six months till all the old neighbors and friends write till old uncle porter will write some time to home from him, and Jameson. I hope to get him, I want to hear from home and to see what I shall have to say for my old place when I come back. Tell Biggs, I had expected to hear from him but have been sadly disappointed. But if some of them think a rough of me, to write to me that one left alone.

John, want you to send me by mail two or three lots of Alons shirt, out of money coming to your father and will pay it to him more and it will be better than nothing money by mail. I want it. Esther his legs are breaking out again, want you to get it from L. Smith of his. Still keep it for bail when his is taken here, send it as quick as possible as it is the only thing that I can get to do them any good and I want to get it. Leave. Send ten of the twenty and postage and will have the old man receipt you first with the price of the article, which I forgot in the other receipt which was one Eliza and the Children all send their love to you and family. Receipt. McLean has not arrived here home. He left on the 15th May last and went home till the first of November. He went with a straining tempo at $50 per month. I must CE to so now. Be present but remain yours in affection.

Tell death, Newr Butter and family.

Edward Friend.
Bloomington August the 10th 1855

Deer Brother and Sister

I imbrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines this morning to let you no that we are all well at present and the friends and Connexion are well at this time and hope these few lines may come safe to hand and find you all enjoying the same blessing we should be thankful to the giver of all good for his mercies and render implicit obedience to all his mandates for the signs of the times indicate a speedy desolution of all things there fore it behoves us to watch for in such an hour as we think not the Son of man Cometh - I have nothing of importance to write to you at this time times is tollerable dull here at time produce is low and mony scarce ower wheat and oats crop is tolerable good but wheat is only one dollar per bushel at this time but there is a probability of its being better soon it depends on the extent of the late discovered gold mines on the Columby river near fort Colvill there great excitement at this time about the mines a great many are going but I have not got the fever yet I had about 14 acres in wheat which I think will make about 300 bushels I had 7 acres in oats tha ware good I have about 3 acres of corn that will make from 35 to 40 bushels per acre one fourth acre potatoes and kyne squashes and 12 killing hogs so you see I dont intend to starve I have 5 head of american horses and 17 cows and calvz all togeather and plenty of grass for them to eat yet I have not fed any stock since I have bin in oregon except work horses and fatening hogs I will not say anything about the country now for you will get a cargo soon George Dueese I marshal and A.W. Lucas will start for Ille in october and then you will get at least all the news I must draw my letter to a close for want of time I feare the mail will go out before I get to the office I will write again soon and you all the news tho I am getting almost discouraged I have not had a letter in six months tell all the old neighbors and friends to write tell old uncle porter to write I want to heare from him or Jameson Leeper tell him I want to heare from him and to no what I shal have to pay for my old place when I come back tell Sigh I had expected to heare from him but have been sadly disappointed But if none of them think a anough of me to write to me tha can let it alone
John I want you to send me by mail two or thre boxes of Slones ointment out of money coming to your father and I will pay it to him heare as it will be beter than risking money by mail I want it for Luther his legs are brakeing out again I want you to get it from C.K. Smith if he still keeps it for sail his is jenuine send it as quick as posable as it is the only thing that I can get to do them any good and I cant obtain it heare send the price of the ointment and postag and I will have the old man receipt you for it with the price of the atlass which I forgot in the other receipt write soon Eliza and the children all send thar love to you and family except William he is not at home he left home the 15th May last and wont home till the first of november he went with a surveying company at $50 per month I must close so none at prsant but remain yours in affection till death

For Mr. Butler and family

Edward Ground