9-2-1855

Letter to John M. Butler from Elijah Butler

Elijah Butler

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Polk Co., Oregon Sept. 22, 1855

Much respected Brother & Sister,

I will seize the present opportunity to write a few lines to you & family. I leave myself and family in good health. Little Ann is sitting on the floor eating watermelon and says Uncle John has her baby so hot as mud and I suspect she is about right for we have the fattest boy and the largest of his age I ever saw and we think she is the best looking child in Oregon. He is five months old and weighs between thirty & forty pounds. I don’t know his weight exactly, for we have not had any chance to weigh him for some time. Father was here last week. He was in good health and says Mother was well. I was at Isaac Smith’s house last Monday. Isaac & his family was all well. Isaac is building him a house. He has the frame up and partly enclosed. Edward Groom & his family are all well. William Groom I went out to the Rogue river country with a surveying company last spring and has not returned yet, they look for him the first of November. Sue this family are well.
Hutchinson & his family are in tolerably healthy health, and Elizabeth has had the flu, they are about well again, I believe. Hutchinson has a job of surveying for the Territory, and he got very liberal wages; but I don’t think he will make more than moderate wages for you know it takes him all day to talk and smoke.

Peace! Mr. Butter has gone to meeting about thirty miles from home and has taken some little girl with him. The rest of the friends are all well, as far as I know. George W. Dierden has sold his land here and says he is going back to Ills. I don’t know when he intends starting. Times is very dull here at this time, produce is very low. Beef is worth seven cts. on foot, but it was ten five cts. on foot.

There is a prospect of arisen in our markets. There has been some new gold mines discovered about three hundred miles to the east from here. I have now doubt, but there is plenty of gold there. There has been several ships there that says they are making from ten to one hundred dollars per day. If this all be true, we can sell our wheat and beef and pork at our own price in less than twelve months from to-day, so I think there is a great many going from this valley to the mines and if they hold out good there will be a general rush from all quarters.

There I have nothing more to write that would interest you at this time.

I have written several letters to Ills. and have not received any answer yet. I don’t charge you nor James with not answering my letters. I want you and James to write as often as you can and I will try and answer all you write. The best I can.

I hope you will excuse this letter for I don’t feel like writing to day. I have got the spirit to day and now if you ever had the complaint, you know I don’t feel like writing much.

Give my regards to all the friends no more at present. But remain your Brother and T.H. Butte.

John M. Butter

Elijah G. Butter
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Monmouth, OR 97361

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Title: Letter to Brother and Sister, John M. Butler from Elijah D. Butler (Polk County Oregon)

Date: September 2, 1855

Transcription:

Polk Co. Oregon Sept 2 1855

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give my respects to all the friends

no more at present but remain your Brother until Death

Elijah D. Butler
John M. Butler