3-28-1858

Letter to John Butler, Eliza (Smith) Butler, Matilda Smith and Lavina Butler from Isaac and Margaret Smith

Isaac Smith
Margaret Smith

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Dear Brother & Sisters and children. I would like to see you all the best. I often think how pleasant it would be to pay you a visit and to converse with you. I don't know anything that I can write that will interest you. I would like to know how you are all doing. What I mean by this is want to know the little particulars. I see from your letter that you have grown a great deal. I would like to be there and compare children with your I think we could get the premium we do not know their weights but they have all grown agricultural little Silda and John Kant be beat John is as white as any baby's Boy with blue eyes yellow head he has a collick in the same side his uncle John has. He is very much doted on by the family. At Silda do think you could find time to write me in the book you have all forgot. Edna went you and Sabina to write me let tell the little things. Thea and Mary has been spending the time the winter. Mary spent has the other day. Rogers went. Berry and Flora was so grateful they told it in one day if you would remember how well it was done come over and we will show it to you. Give my respects to the Phelps and family tell them I have not forget her if she is here you must all write as often as you can so no more at present. I remain your affectionate sister until death.

Margaret D. Smith

Brookport, St. John county. 18 February 1858.

Dear Brother & Sisters,

I received yours of Jan 27th with the unkind news of your good health which done at all times good to receive of, and also some melancholic news of sickness and death amongst our friends. I have the good news to write in relation we are all well at this time but some of the comparison we speak. The earth is removed off with the happy few some say consolations. The Whenever and has and the Typhoid fever has got her heart again. Thanks Dr. Murphy has run sick but she is getting better. Martha Haley did a short while ago with typhoid fever before. Say to some say yes they all got sick with sickness, a few who are in a condition. There are several others according to those who are I do not forget to write any thing than a letter to you, but there is no thing about it there has been a great deal of sickness there while. The country has been very ill the health. I suppose you have heard of Eliza's death these things are suffering at the same time in land. The Typhoid fever is very well. The Sisters say that Lengs & Lensen was both affected and needed a rest all of his forcing to Sarah. She has rented the place to another.
gone to live with Thomas Lucas for the present. The talk of having a house built in Claremore.

we have had a moderate winter there has been no rain, but we have had some snow. Several times last did not lay on but a day or two each time. I finished coming out of the slacks a few days ago. They look fine. I now have a fine prospect of wheat.

I received some sugar corn seed in your letter which I was glad to get. There is plenty of corn grown in Oregon but there is none in our neighborhood. It is said that it does well here. I am an owner of a new grant issued in this called Kansas grant. If you can get half of any seed corn I'll give it to you. I want to try all of the different kinds. I have a start of corn. I have a start of a tall Timothy blue grass and orchard grass. I am raising some corn seed that we will have to raise. Some of our new Best. I also have some of your hard times stock of money. I went all around here there are no promises we have to take it as it comes. I have reasonable good times here. Every thing looks a reasonable price. I have just sold off my steers. I got $20 for two year olds and 80 for three. I got 40 for far as I sold corn to $28. Some horses are worth from 2 to 300 hundred dollars. Sheep is worth 50 cents per head.

I have a very fine start of the different kinds of stock. Wheat now is very good. Weir is worth $1.50 per bushel. California is worth 150 to 200. Wheat is plenty here. I of Oregon could get what was due from the general appropriation for carrying on the railroad work it would be very plenty. There is about five million of dollars due us and it is hoped that the present congress will make an appropriation to pay the said debt.

Tell John that I got word of seeing his long letter he had better hold up a little West knew that if he has any 1830 fine cattle if he will bring them here he can get five hundred dollars apiece at least I have heard of them selling that high. The people here are getting very much in the spirit of fine stock. There is a company organized here for the purpose of importing fine stock. They have purchased in New York, for five thousand dollars. They calculate to import some young cattle of fine stock. They say they can bring them with out difficulty by putting them into the enterprise. I would like to see you and not out of town to wait for the railroad. Pam a friend that is a dull person. If we do anything for letting me still have to do it everything must be very yours, see the affection. Diana Margaret Smith
Bridgeport Polk County OT March 28th 1858

Dear Brother & Sisters

I received yours of Jan 27th with the welcome news of your good health which I am at all times glad to hear of, and also some melancholy news of sickness and death amongst our kinsfolks & friends. I have the good & bad news to write in return we are all well at this time but some of the connections are sick. Robert Ground is very bad off with the lung fever some say consumption.

William Ground has had the typhoid fever but has got a good again Franky Murphy has been sick but she is getting better Marthy Haley died a short time ago with typhoid fever some say & some say not. They all got sick with several other at Monmouthers there are several causes ascribed to their sickness I do not pretend to know anything about it, but there is one thing about it there has been a good deal of sickness there while the country has been reasonable healthy I suppose you have heard of Elijah’s death. These things are painful at the same time unavoidable he has been complaining a good while of times the Doctors say his lungs & liver was both affected he willed most all of his property to Sarah she has rented the place out and has gone to live with Thomas Lucas for the present She talk of having a house built in Monmouth.

We have had a moderate winter there has been no freeze but we have had some snow it snowed twice but did not lay on but a day or two each time. I finished sowing oats three weeks ago they look fine I also have a fine prospect of wheat.

I received some sugar cane seed in your letter which I was glad to get, there is plenty of it in Oregon but there is none in our neighborhood it is said that it does well here. I see an account of a new grafs seed in Ill’s called Hungarian grafs if you can get holt of any send me a few in a letter I want to try all of the different kinds, tame grafs does well here I have a start of
Timothy blue grafs & orchard grafs the country is geting so over stock that we will have to rais some feed for hard spells in winter. thare are 22000 head of cattle in our country besides other stock.

I was sorry to hear of your hard times and scarcity of money but all countrys have thare ups & downs we have to take it as it comes. We have resonable good times heare everything bears a resonable price I have just sold off my steers I got $20 for two year olds 30 for threes & 40 for fores what I sold come to $280 good horses are worth from 2 to 300 hundred dollars per head. I have a very pirty start of the different kinds of stock my prospect for a living is very good. wheat is worth $1.50 per bushel Oats $1.00 Butter is worth 50 cts per pound, Money is plenty heare & if oregon could get what was due here from the general goverment for carrying on the Indian ware it wold be very plenty thare is about fore million of dollars due us and it is hoped that the presant congrefs will make an apropiation to pay the said debt.

tell James that I get tired of reading his long letters he had better hold up a little. Tell M Lucas that if he has any No 1 fine cattle if he will bring them heare he can get five hundred dollars a piece at least I have heard of them selling that high. the people heare ar geting very much in the spirit of fine stock thare is a company organized heare for the purpose of importing fine stock thay have purchased in New York a horse for five thousand dollars thay calculate to import some young cattle of fine stock thay say thay can bring them without deficuly by water suckess to the enterprise.

I would like to see you all but will have to wait for the Raill road I am afraid that is a dull prospect but what we cant do by talking we will halve to do by writing. write often

Yours with affection.

Isaac & Margaret Smith

*Addition to March 28, 1858 letter from Isaac & Margaret Smith

Dear Brother Sister and children

I would like to see you all the best I often think how pleasant it would be to pay you a visit and to converse with you I dont know enny thing that I can wate that will interest you I would like to know how you are all a doing what I mean by this is I want to know the little particulars I see from you letter that you children has grown a greateal I would like to be their and compare children with you I think we could get the premium we do not know their weights but they have all grown a greateal little Tilda and John cant be beat John is as white as enny boddys boy with blue eyes yellow head he has a cowlick on the same side his Uncle John has. he is very much doted on by the family Matilda do think you could find time to write more I reckon you have all forgot us. Eliza I want you and Lavina to write me a long letter and tell all the little things. Flora and Mary has been piecing them a quilt this winter Mary quilted hers the other day Rufus Wirght Berry and Flory was the quilters they quilted it in one day if you want to know how well it was done come over and we will show it to you. give my respects to Mr. Phelps and family tell Ann I have not forgot her if she has me you must all write as often as you can so no more at present
I remain your affectionate sister until death

Margaret B Smith