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Letter to John Butler from Isaac Butler

Isaac Butler

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I hope when you get this you will answer it soon and tell me all about everything that you think will interest me. I want you to tell me where to write to Joseph & William for I have understood they have both moved away from where they used to live. I still own my farm and think some of going back to work at it so it is impossible to make much money from farming when other times are so hard. I believe I have nothing more to write at present. Hoping you will write soon & I want you to tell James to write to me for it has been 12 years since I received any from him. I have written this in great hurry for I have a great many things to think about. I now write more at this time but remain yours loving brother with all love.

Isaac M. Butler

Dear Brother I have written several letters to you and the rest of my brothers and never received any answer but I shall still write to you all occasionally. This leaves my self and family as well as myself for us. My wife is not at home now she is waiting on her sister that is sick with the inflammatory Rheumatism. She has been very low for about two weeks I do not think she will ever recover. I have been living in town and selling goods for the past few months. It seems to me that the weather has been in accordance with them. blessing on us as they have, we need to do very good business but we are doing nothing now. the Indian war has inspired Oregon very much people burned and that foxes cattle and provisions and they have never been scarce. One of their joy and are not likely to come and when Congress does the profit to pay as
it is very likely to be cut down to almost no amount if we should get all of the debt that is due us it would not let Oregon where she was before the war if Congress does cut down the war debts and raise taxes all voluntary this pay of regular Soldiers the next time they call for volunteers they will not be very likely to get through for one will remove men out unless to protect the people in which I live.

The third times are caused in a measure by our own folly the people of Oregon have had plenty of money for several years it came easy and went the same way Our people have been buying two much and not raising enough to sell to bring money into the country and tell our experts exceed our imports our credit being on look for things to go on smoothly in Oregon. The wealth of the Country has been very good this season for which we should feel very thankful our crops have been rather short onto say 45 1\2 bushel the best average is about 30 1\2 bushel. cattle are very scarce the decline land is low and but very little selling. it has been raining for

two days rather uncommon as this season for Oregon I think this will start the grass up green and if it does we will get through the coming winter very comfortably

our State meeting was just passed off in Our little town we had a good many good preachers with us and the laborious very hard but strong to say there was not one addition to the church this is very discouraging but we must be the most diligent at our duties and never give up while God delivered an assurance the last evening the old man is getting quite feeble can't pay it is very sad also

Brother is living with his wife as well as usual I saw all the connection at the meeting and they were all as well as common There is quite a stir about the Eastern portion of Oregon on the East side of the cascade range of mountains there is a great many miners and taking stock out there things is said to be very fine

John Murphy they have gone out there with stock and many others would go if they could sell their property while I think they had better be caution here where they are getting fined to live it is all valley moving from one place to another.
Monmouth Sept. 15th 1859

Dear Brother

I have written several letters to you and the rest of my brothers and never received an answer but I shall still write to you all occasionally. This leaves myself and family as well as usual for us. My wife is not at home now she is waiting on her sister that is sick with the inflammatory Rheumatism She has been very low for about six weeks I do not think she will ever recover I have been living in Monmouth and selling goods for the last year Business is very dull here now in consequence of times closing in as they have. We used to do a very good business but are doing nothing now. The Indian war has injured Oregon very much people turned out their horses cattle and provisions and they never have received one cent of their pay and are not likely to soone and when Congress does see fit to pay us it is very likely to be cut down to almost nothing. If we should get all of the debt that is due us it would not set Oregon where she was before the war. if Congress does cut down the war debt and only allow volunteers the pay of regular soldiers. The next time they call for volunteers they will not be very likely to get them. I for one will never turn out unless to protect the valley in which I live.

The hard times are caused in a measure by our own folly the people of Oregon have had plenty of money for several years it came easy and went the same way Our poplu have been buying two much and not raising enough to sell to bring money into the country until our exports exceed our imports we need never look for things to go on smoothly in Oregon The health of the country has been very good this season for which we should feel very thankful our crops have been rather short Oats very short wheat is worth $1.00 oats 75 Cattle & Horses are on the decline Land is low and but very little selling It has been raining for two days rather uncommon at this season for Oregon I think this will start the grass up green and if it does we will get through the coming winter very comfortable.
Our state meeting has just passed off in our little town we had a good many good preachers with us and they labored verry hard but strang to say there was not one addition to the church this is verry discouraging but we must be the more diligent in our duties, and never give up. Uncle Elijah delivered an exortation the last evening the old man is getting quite feeble Aunt Peggy is verry feeble also Mother is liveing with Ira. She is as well as usual. I saw all the connection at the meeting and they were all as well as the common. There is quite a stir about the Eastern portion of Oregon and the East side of the Cascade Range of mountains there is a great many moveing and taking stock out there the grass is said to be verry fine

John E Murphys boys have gone out there with stock and many others would go if they could sell their property here I think they had better be contented here where they are getting fixed to live it is all folley moving from one place to another.

I hope when you get this you will answer it soone and tell me all about everything that you think will interest me I want you to tell me where to write to Joseph & William for I have understood they have have both moved away from where they used to live. I still own my farm and think some of going back to work on it as it is impossilbe to make much selling goods when when times are so hard I believe I have nothing more to write at present. Hopeing you will write soone and I want you to tell James to write to me for it has been 2 years since I recieved ane from him. I have written this in a great hurry for I have a great many thing to think and studdy about No more at this time but remain your loving brother untill death

Isaac M. Butler