

1-6-1856

Letter to John Butler and Eliza (Smith) Butler from Joseph Butler and Jane Butler

Joseph Butler

Jane Butler

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Dutchess Iowa Jan: 6th 1856

Dear Brother & Sister

I received a letter from you some two weeks since and would have answered it sooner but I have been waiting to get a Post office in Tallyrand a little town one or two miles and a quarter south of my house, but have waited in vain. I was very glad to hear from you but was sorry to hear that you had had so much sickness in your family, and also to hear of poor Berryman Murphys death. We have had some sickness in our neighborhood and some few deaths. R. J. Henderson had one child to die last summer with the head dropsey. we have had no sickness in our family this season of any note. The health of the country is verry good at present.

I have not heard from Oregon for several months, nor from William I would like to know where he is and what he is doing, if you hear from him, let me know the particulars as soon as possible for I am anxious to know something about him.

We have had a verry cold winter so far but it is a little more pleasant today than it has been for three weeks. we have a tolerable good sliding snow about five inches deep

We had fine crops this season. I had the best crop of corn that I ever raised in my life. I have not sold my pork yet I have only eight heads to sell I expect to butcher mine and take them to Musketine pork has been selling here at three and a half and four dollars per hundred gross weight I heard it was worth from six to seven dollars neat in Musketine I think I will go down there this week, you wanted me to come and see you this winter but I dont expect to get over there this winter but if every thing goes on right I think we will be over there some time next summer or fall.

We have our house finished except painting that I will do next spring if I keep my health. we have a fine prospect of a rail road through our neighborhood I think it will run about five miles from my house it maybe closer there has been five or six routes surveyed one through my farm one in one mile and a half one in two miles one in four and a half and one in five miles. they expect to be at work on it along through here next summer it is to be finished as far as Washington in one year from this winter. the contract is let as far west as Okhalosa. I think we will have better times when we get a rail road.

Land property is on the rise here farms that sold some two years ago for \$1000. sell now for three thousand or more horses are worth from \$100. to \$150. work cattle from \$100 to \$125. every thing else in proportion. flour \$14.00 per hundred wheat \$1.00 per bushel corn 20 cents oats 20 cents.

I have killed three deer this fall and winter. I want you to write often dont put it off as long as you did before and write all that you hear from Oregon that is all the important news, and all from William, I am always glad to hear from you, this leaves my family in good health.

Your Brother Joseph Butler
John M. Butler
Eliza Butler
E. Jane Butler

P.S. I have not sold my farm yet if I do I shall settle some place in Iowa I expect
Joseph Butler

Butler Family Letters

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Title: Letter to Brother and Sister (John M and Eliza Butler) from Joseph Butler and Jan Butler (Dutchcreek Iowa)

Date: January 6, 1856

Transcription:

Dutchcreek Iowa Jan 6th 1856

Dear Brother and Sister

I received a letter from you some two weeks since and would have answered it sooner but I have been waiting to get a Post office in Yalleyrand a little town one mile and a quarter south of my house, but have waited in vain. I was verry glad to hear from you but was sorry to hear that you had had so much sickness in your family and also to hear of poor Berryman Murphys death. We have had some sickness in our neighborhood and some few deaths R.J. Henderson had one child to die last summer with the head dropsey. we have had no sickness in our family this season of any note. the health of the country is verry good at present- I have not heard from Oregon for several months now nor from William I would like to know where he is and what he is doing. if you hear from him let me know the particulars as soon as posable for I am anxious to know something about him

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Your Brother

Joseph Butler
Jane Butler

to: John M. Butler
Eliza Butler

P.S. I have not sold my farm yet if I do I shall settle some place in Iowa I expect

Joseph Butler