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Butler Family Letters (Transcripts)

**Butler Family Letters** 

8-25-1855

## Letter to Children from Peter and Rachel Butler

Peter Butler

Rachel Butler

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## **Recommended** Citation

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for last years rent for I much needed it I hope he will, me this years rent for I have to pay ten per Pola County Origon Teretory August 25/55 cent on money and that is an eating matte Dear Children I want you to see your uncle to & and July and I feel it to be my duty to write to tell them that I will try to write to them soon tell them that Calven is as well as usual for you as often as I can conveniently and let you know how we are goting along, if I cauld only see you him to be tell form & Murphy's friends that he is well and damy well, till sig that all his all and splud a few days with you it would afford me more sattrofaction than tat would to write a hundred toters, but as I am deproved friends are well as far as I hnew George Deweese of that happines; must avail myself of the has sold out and talks of going back to ald linery only resource which is left me to commune at but it is thought by some that he will buy again few thoughts by usay of letter. This haves us young Eljah Davidson has sold his place near all in reasonable health at preasent for which we aught to feel very thankfull and I do eincearly Portland and is going To moore up near his fothers hope when these times reaches you that you will he got four thousand dollars for fife righty all be injaying the same blefpings our county is toterable healthy though thank has been serveral give my best love and respects to all my of find cases of chill and fiver, but I believe it has Tell them that I would be glad to see any of mostly subsided, I believe this country is some he . attheer han Minais but we have some sicknep Them on even hear from them I suppose they all have more time to write thang I have and some deaths here as well as else where and we have not the conveniences have that you and I hope they will occupy a small portion are in Illinaishbut we have some hope that prode of their lessure in writing something abo. welly bear some better price in This value before log The advantages of old Illinais and it will most assured by if the antisa pateons of the people are realized in relation. To The gold. well come to a close for The present, mines on or near the columbia river nearfort Jaw father & mother Peter Butter Rachel Butter colorle thave had been gold discovered in That menty which has caused as much excitement

which I have had is to pay faur per cent I will as The gold minds ded in california in 1849 it is suppose that there is Two Thousand persons abrea send it to Avilland und if lant do better of must loose over 12 dallars here and three dollay dy gone thave and almost every body talks of going as soon as they can get off it is said That and fifty conts in st Louis, If. you should over They are making from tim to one hundred dollars sind me any more I want you to get a go per day to the hand and if the diggins are of -verment draft and that will go at par tensive than will be greate emigration from the I hope Wilson well pay off that fiftur hund States nost year To the minds for they are much dollar note with the intrest when it is due next nearer To The states Than california the willamate; April but if he does not I want you To fore value is the nearest point from which they cange allose the Morguage as soon as you can as this supplys, none of our folks are gone yet and I am in greate need of funds, If you can sell the I don't much expect they will go this fall or winter place that got of Isaac for 25 dollars per acre John you wrote to me to let you know what amaunit or more do so and if- Isaac makes me a title of money you sent to me and as I had The duple you have the power to make a title in my cate I sent it without having reference to your name and if he does not you can make it letter but after sending it I thought of your in his name you had better mention it to having to buy the deaft and upon examining The purchase so that Thave will be no misun your letter I find that you sunt by Rankin dustanding of you sell get as much down to St Louis & 975,50 you Also wanted me to wait as you can and if you have to wait long have you the exact amount of the notes which I let Intrest 10 of you can get it I will write to you with you I have no means of noing the amount between this time and next farmary and as well as you have for you have the sale bill tell you what to do with the old place I want and if you will examine that you can tell near you to write to me when you receive this Tell you what to do with the old place I want mangh one thing think you will find that letter and let me know have every thing is a bant the de place and of I take a notion note and if kiger is hentst he will have the to sell what you gave get for it, I want to amount over to you Elyah wants to know with know how the hedge is doing and what, con dition of The fince is whether it needs The Ostrem payed of the note he gave him for the mule. I received a draft for \$ 304 49 to repairs I want you To Beadly that I feel i very thankful for the money he sent mi but I can't get it cashed yet, the best offer

## Butler Family Letters Digital Collection

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Title: Letter to children from Peter and Rachel Butler (Polk County Oregon Territory)

Date: August 25, 1855

Transcription:

Polk County Oregon Teretory August 25/55

Dear Children

I feel it to be my duty to write to you as often as I can conveniently and let you know how we are geting along, if I could only see you all and spend a few days with you it would afford me more sattisfaction than it would to write a hundred letters, but as I am deprived of that happinefs, I must avail myself of the only resorce which is left me to communicate a few thoughts by way of letter. This leaves us all in reasonable health at preasent for which we aught to feel very thankfull, and I do cincearly hope when these lines reaches you that you will all be injoying the same blefsings. Our country is tolerable healthy though thare has been several cases of chill and fever, but I believe it has mostly subsided. I believe this country is some healthier than Illinois but we have some sickness and some deaths here as well as else where we have not the conveniences here that you have in Illinois but we have some hope that produce will bear some better price in this valey before long and it will most assuredly if the antisapations of the people are realized in relation to the gold mines on or near the Columbia river near fort Colville thare has been gold discovered in that vicinity which has caused as much excitement as the gold mines did in California in 1849 it is supposed that there is two thousand persons already gone there and almost every body talks of going as soon as they can get off. it is said that they are making from ten to one hundred dollars per day to the hand and if the diggins are of extensive thare will be greate imigration from the states next year to the mines for they are much nearer to the states than California the willamate valey is the nearest point from which they can get thier supplys. none of our folks are gone yet and I dont much expect they will go this fall or winter. John you wrote to me to let you know what amount of money you sent to me and as I had the duplicate I sent it without having reference to your letter but after sending it I thought of your having to buy the draft and upon examining your letter I find that you sent by Rankin to St Louis \$975.50 You also wanted me to send you the exact amount of the notes which I left with you I have no means of noing the amount as well as you have for you have the sale bill and if you will examine that you can tell near enough. One thing I think you will find that the price of the harrow was never

put in the note and if Kizer is honest he will pay the amount over to you Elijah wants to know whether Ostrem payed off the note he gave him for the mule. I received a draft for \$304 49/100 but I cant get it cashed yet, the best offer which I have had is to pay four per cent I will send it to Portland and if I cant do better I must loose over \$12 dollars here and three dollars and fifty cents in St Louis. If you should ever send me any more I want you to get a government draft and that will go at par I hope Wilson will pay off that fifteen hundred dollar note with the intrest when it is due next April but if he does not I want you to foreclose the morguage as soon as you can as I am in greate need of funds. If you can sell the place that I got of Isaac for 25 dollars per acre or more do so and if Isaac makes me a Title you have the power to make a title in my name and if he does not you can make it in his name you had better mention it to the purchaser so that thare will be no misunderstanding if you sell get as much down as you can and if you have to wait long have intrest 10 per cent if you can get it I will write to you between this time and next January and tell you what to do with the old place I want you to write to me when you receive this letter and let me know how every thing is about the old place and if I take a notion to sell what you can get for it. I want to know how the hedge is doing and what the condition of the fence is whether it needs repairs I want you to tell Beadly that I feel very thankful for the money he sent me for last years rent for I much needed it I hope he will send me this years rent for I have to pay ten per cent on money and that is an eating matr I want you to see your uncle Jo and ant July and tell them that I will try to write to them soon tell them that Calvin is as well as usual for him to be tell John E. Murphy's friends that he is well and doing well, tell Sy that all his friends are well as far as I know George Deweese has sold out and talks of going back to old Illinois but it is thought by some that he will buy again Young Elijah Davidson has sold his place near Portland and is going to move up near his father's he got four thousand dollars for five eightys he sold the other three last spring give my best love and respects to all my old friends tell them that I would be glad to see any of them or even hear from them, I suppose they all have more time to write than I have and I hope they will occupy a small portion of their leisure in writing something about the advantages of old Illinois I will come to a close for the present.

Your father & mother Peter Butler Rachel Butler