

The Butler Saga



Compiled by
Beryl Putnam Duffin
2007

I have ever had a pleasure
of obtaining any little anecdote
of my ancestors.
Benjamin Franklin

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They, the builders of the nation,
Blazing trails along the way;
Stepping stones for generations
Were their deeds of every day.
Building new and firm foundations,
Pushing on the wild frontier,
Forging onward, ever onward,
Blessed, honored Pioneer!

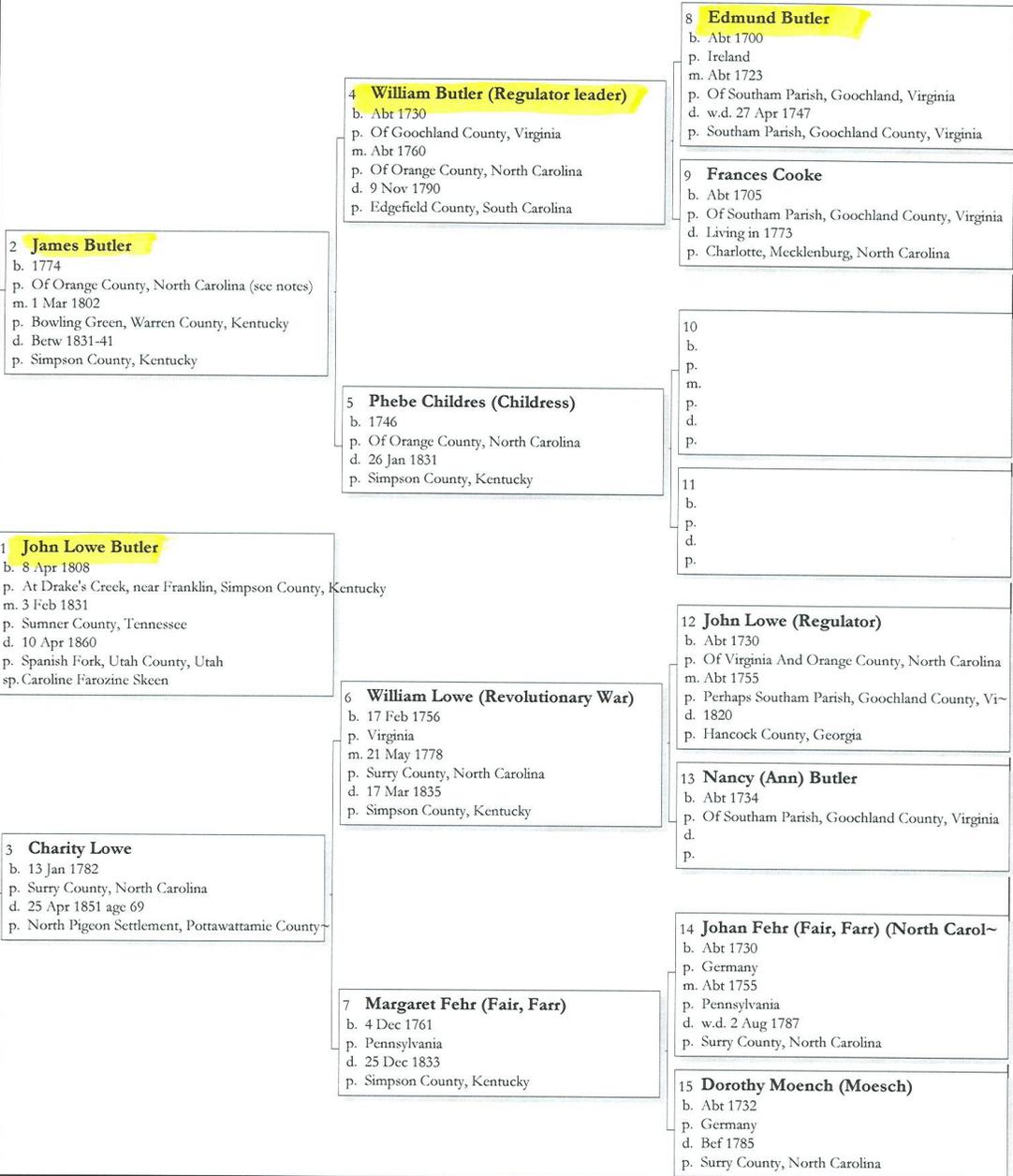
As an ensign to the nation,
They unfurled the flag of truth,
Pillar, guide, and inspiration
To the hosts of waiting youth.
Honor, praise, and veneration
To the founders we revere!
List our song of adoration,
Blessed, honored Pioneer!

Hymns of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, no. 36, verses 1 and 3

Ancestors of John Lowe Butler

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

Chart no. 1



Preface

The purpose of this little booklet is not to present all of the ancestry of John Lowe Butler outlined on the previous pedigree chart, but rather to recount for readers stories of some of the bold ventures and adventures of the Butlers on the chart, in particular, those of John Lowe Butler and his family, who were some of the earliest Mormon pioneers, and of John's swashbuckling Grandfather William Butler, the pre-Revolutionary Regulator leader in North Carolina.

Documentary, as well as legendary, evidence abounds for John and William, whereas credible information available to us for John's father James Butler, and for William's father Edmund Butler, is scanty. It is regrettable that we do not know more about the adventures of James Butler, who migrated from North Carolina to Kentucky to establish himself and his family upon a large acreage in the Drake's Creek settlement in Simpson County—or, indeed, of Edmund Butler, an Irish immigrant (according to John Lowe Butler in his *Autobiography*¹) and well-to-do Virginia planter.

There are many genealogical postings on the internet that assume parentage for Edmund Butler. Some of them claim that his father is William Butler (1655–1709) “of England”; and several other genealogies, more compelling in the light of John Lowe Butler's statement that the Butlers came from Ireland, show Edmund's father as Samuel Butler (1684–1718) of Louth, Ireland—and Samuel's father as Aaron Butler, born 1664, also of Louth. I have not seen any documentary evidence for either claim, but certainly this latter possibility is worth investigating. There is, in fact, an interesting “County Louth Ireland Genealogy Project” currently on line, as well as a number of County Louth films at the Family History Library, for any reader who is interested in investigating this interesting Louth possibility.



Is Edmund Butler from Louth?

Still another genealogical web site suggests that our Edmund's father *might* be another Edmund Butler, but adds the need for further research.

Butler Origins

There are numerous interesting references on Butler origins in Ireland, for example:

1. “The ancestors of the Butlers came from Normandy with William the Conqueror. Their original name was Walter, from Walter, one of their ancestors; and Theobald Walter came to Ireland with Henry the Second in 1172 and had the office of Chief Butler of Ireland conferred on him, one duty of which was to attend the coronation of the kings and present them with the first cup of wine. From this office, “Butlership of Ireland,” came the surname Butler.”²

¹See the excellent transcription of the *Autobiography* in William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Aspen Books, 1993) pp. 369–434; the references to Butler Irish roots are found on pp. 371 and 378.

²William David Butler (of St. Louis, Missouri), John Cromwell Butler (of Denver, Colorado), and Joseph Marion Butler (of Chicago, Illinois), *The Butler Family of America* (St. Louis, Missouri: Shallcross Printing Company, 1910).

2. "The Butlers are of Norman origin and came to England with William the Conqueror in 1066 A.D. Theobald, the ancestor of the Irish branch of the family, was granted large possessions in Ireland by Henry II. His descendants were afterwards among the nobility in the counties of Tipperary, Wexford, Waterford, Wicklow, Carlow, Kilkenny, and Dublin. Branches of the family held peerages in England, Scotland, and Wales, as well as the peerages of Ormond, Dunboyne, Cahir, Montgarret, Ikerrin, and Galmoy in Ireland."³

3. "Herveius Walter, who married Maud de Valois, was one of the companions of William the Conqueror. His brother Hubert was Archbishop of Canterbury in 1193, and Chancellor, Chief Justice, and Treasurer of England. Theobald Walter, the son of Herveius, accompanied Henry II to Ireland in 1171 and was created Chief Butler of Ireland in 1177, hence the name Butler. The family rapidly increased in power and wealth and received various titles and honors."⁴

4. "To evaluate the surfeit of speculation which has accumulated around the 11th century ancestry of the Chief Butlers of Ireland, it is first necessary to assemble and analyse all that can be ascertained about the earliest man from whom their paternal lineage is known to stem. His christian name, in the Latin of medieval officialdom, was certainly 'Herveus,' his surname, almost certainly, 'Walterus.'

"First, a final accord of 1195, in the time of his grandchildren, named him in the genitive as 'Hervei Walteri avi ipsius Theobaldi Walteri' (which Carew translated from the truncated Latin of the original text as 'Hervei Walter, grandfather of Theobald'). That is the earliest known record of him and it is most unlikely to have misnamed him; for, not only was it an official accord and, moreover, an innovation of its type, but also his own grandson, Theobald, was a party to the agreement, while another grandson, Hubert, was given as the presiding judge of the court which dealt with the matter....

"So the following profile emerges. Hervei Walter appears to have been born in the second half of the 11th century and to have been still alive towards the middle of the 12th century. There is no reason to suppose he was a major landowner but he did hold many a broad acre in Lancashire and others which were probably less numerous, although of no less value, in Norfolk and Suffolk. The possibility of his having held more elsewhere in England or on the continent cannot be excluded. His wife is elusive; but he must have married by 1120, and from him a remarkably widespread swordside descent is traceable to modern times in unbroken succession, the Chief Butlers of Ireland being his heirs-male."⁵

5. "The history of the illustrious house of Butler of Ormonde is, in point of fact, the history of Ireland from the time of the Anglo-Norman invasion. At the head of the great nobility of that country have ever stood the Butlers and the Geraldines, rivals in power and equals in renown. For ages, their story fills the pages of the Irish annals, from the advent of Theobald Fitz-Walter in the reign of Henry II, down to the death of James, 2nd Duke of Ormonde, at Avignon, in 1745."⁶

Beryl Putnam Duffin

2007

³From a page (her source not cited) written by Edith Butler Whitehead of Twin Falls, Idaho, in 1955.

⁴Peyton Neale Clarke, *Old King William Homes and Families* (FHL book F232 K5C5), under a section titled "Butler."

⁵Lord Dunboyne, "The Original Ancestor of the Chief Butlers of Ireland," *The Irish Genealogist*, Vol. 5, No. 1, pp. 2-4 (November 1974), pp. 1, 4.

⁶J. Montgomery Seaver, *Butler Family History* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: American Historical-Genealogical Society, 1929), p. 1. See also Edward MacLysaght, *Irish Families, Their Names, and Origins* (Dublin: 1957).

Edmund Butler Family

Family Group Record

Page 1 of 1

| Husband | | Edmund Butler | | | | LDS ordinance dates | | Temple | |
|------------------|------------------|--|--|--|-------------|---------------------|-------|--------|--|
| Born | Abt 1700 | Place | Ireland | Baptized | 11 Oct 1881 | | | SGEOR | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 28 Feb 1957 | | | SGEOR | |
| Died | w.d. 27 Apr 1747 | Place | Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | SealPar | | | | | |
| Buried | w.p. 17 Sep 1747 | Place | Will Proved In Goochland County Courthouse, Virginia | SealSp | 14 Oct 1958 | | | SGEOR | |
| Married | Abt 1723 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland, Virginia | | | | | | |
| Husband's father | | | | | | | | | |
| Husband's mother | | | | | | | | | |
| Wife | | Frances Cooke | | | | LDS ordinance dates | | Temple | |
| Born | Abt 1705 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 28 Aug 1956 | | | SGEOR | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 21 Feb 1957 | | | SGEOR | |
| Died | Living in 1773 | Place | Charlotte, Virginia or North Carolina | SealPar | | | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Wife's father | | | | | | | | | |
| Wife's mother | | | | | | | | | |
| Children | | | | List each child in order of birth. | | LDS ordinance dates | | Temple | |
| 1 | M | Aaron Butler | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1724 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 28 Aug 1956 | | | SGEOR | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 28 Feb 1957 | | | SGEOR | |
| Died | w.d. 13 Oct 1776 | Place | Cumberland County, Virginia | SealPar | 19 Nov 1958 | | | SGEOR | |
| Buried | w.p. 24 Mar 1777 | Place | Cumberland County, Virginia | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | Mrs. Aaron Butler | | | | | | | |
| Married | | | | SealSp | | | | | |
| 2 | M | (Brigadier General) John Butler | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1726 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | Nov 1841 | NAUVO | | | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 28 Aug 1956 | SGEOR | | | |
| Died | w.d. 17 May 1785 | Place | Orange County, North Carolina | SealPar | 19 Nov 1958 | SGEOR | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | Anne Armstrong | | | | | | | |
| Married | | | | SealSp | 25 Aug 2005 | RENO | | | |
| 3 | M | Edmund Butler | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1728 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 28 Aug 1956 | SGEOR | | | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 28 Feb 1957 | SGEOR | | | |
| Died | w.d. 27 Apr 1801 | Place | Hancock County, Georgia | SealPar | 19 Nov 1958 | SGEOR | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | Mary (Polly) Street | | | | | | | |
| Married | | | | SealSp | | | | | |
| 4 | M | William Butler (Regulator leader) | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1730 | Place | Of Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 | SLAKE | | | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 18 Feb 1952 | SLAKE | | | |
| Died | 9 Nov 1790 | Place | Edgefield County, South Carolina | SealPar | 19 Nov 1958 | SGEOR | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | Phebe Childres (Childress) | | | | | | | |
| Married | | Abt 1760 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | SealSp | 28 Sep 1953 | SLAKE | | |
| 5 | F | Daughter Butler | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1732 | Place | Of Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 1 Oct 2003 | MEMPH | | | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 3 Mar 2004 | MEMPH | | | |
| Died | | Place | | SealPar | 11 Sep 2004 | MEMPH | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | William Watson (Jr.) | | | | | | | |
| Married | | | | SealSp | 24 Mar 2007 | MEMPH | | | |
| 6 | F | Nancy (Ann) Butler | | | | | | | |
| Born | Abt 1734 | Place | Of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | Baptized | 17 Jan 1890 | MANTI | | | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 18 Jun 1890 | MANTI | | | |
| Died | | Place | | SealPar | 13 Jan 1974 | IFALL | | | |
| Buried | | Place | | | | | | | |
| Spouse | | John Lowe (Regulator) | | | | | | | |
| Married | | Abt 1755 | Place | Perhaps Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia | SealSp | 18 Jun 1890 | MANTI | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------------|
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| Date prepared | 26 Aug 2007 | | |

This family group record has been compiled mainly from data in the Regulator and Butler Papers shown with the William Butler section of this booklet.

I need Butler to her Son Wm Butler
 Cumberland 6th of November 1766.
 Dear Bille, By this you will know I am in
 health likewise your Brothers & Sisters as far as I
 know, thanks to God for it, I'm no near to
 write, I live with Aaron and have for some
 time, I yesterday heard Mr Pattillo preach a
 General Sermon for Aaron's Child who died last
 Spring in April, was for Aaron's good for he had
 a deal of pains to show us the need we all were
 in to prepare for the same, and that had it will be
 with us if we neglect it. And now my dear son I write
 a line you as though this was my last advice to you
 for God knows whether it will or not, for I know
 many of my days are passed, and it may be the
 last with you my son — and what accounts should
 we give were we not to die, do we believe and
 love God and his Commands, so as to be accepting
 or do we know any thing of Christ who died for
 our sins; — I don't know how to speak
 to you about these things, because I fear you won't
 love to hear it, but as you must know I love you
 as myself, and that I've nothing else to give
 you, let me beg you will observe and prepare
 for the next world, I know you are sensible of your
 duty to take care for you & yours in this life so
 we may live in happiness to eternity, but I hope
 this, and I am obliged to you for writing
 to me, pray let me hear from you as often as
 possible, its a comfort to me to hear of
 your welfare, and a sorrow to hear
 otherwise; I conclude my love to your wife
 and family and accept the same yourself from
 your loving Mother
 Francis Butler

P.S. Favour the Rev. Mr. Pattillo

Letter, 6 November 1766, from Frances Butler (widow of Edmund Butler) in Cumberland, Virginia,
 to her son "Bille," i. e., William Butler, Regulator leader in North Carolina
 (Among the "Butler Family Papers," in the Southern Historical Collection at the
 University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill)

Edmund Butler, Virginia Planter

John Lowe Butler, in his *Autobiography*, wrote that his grandfather William Butler's "Father came from Ireland."¹ How or when Edmund Butler left Ireland and settled on his several hundred acre plantation in Virginia remains yet unknown to us. Few documents exist, but they are valuable, in particular Edmund Butler's 1747 will and the letter his widow Frances wrote in 1766.

Edmund Butler married Frances Cooke² probably in the early 1720s, perhaps about 1723. There is a Cooke genealogy, "Descendants of Abraham Cooke, Sr.," that places our Frances Cooke as the daughter of Abraham Cooke and Martha Cleaton or Clayton of New Kent County, Virginia.³ This work includes many pages of Butler data, proposing that Edmund Butler was first in that part of New Kent County that became Hanover County in 1720, since his name appears on lists of early headright grants in those counties. His name also appears in various court records of Goochland County, for example, as a surveyor of roads (1732) and as a witness in various disputes (1735 through 1741). On 13 December 1744, Jacob Michaux, in his will, gives to Edmund Butler the "fifty acres on which he now lives" (Jacob Michaux's property adjoined that of Edmund Butler); and on 16 April 1745, Edmund Butler, with two others, valued the improvements on the land of Joseph Woodson, who was a son-in-law to Jacob Michaux.⁴

Four sons are named in Edmund's will: Aaron, John, Edmund, and William; and Frances's letter names the sons "Bille" (William) and Aaron, with whom she is living in 1766. In this letter, Frances also mentions Bille's "sisters." The daughters of Edmund and Frances are not named in Edmund's will, but one of them married William Watson, Jr.; a 1785 will by a William Watson in Orange County, North Carolina, names wife Ellenor, but we have no evidence to prove that our William Watson, Jr., lived in North Carolina. Another daughter, variously called Nancy and Ann (Nancy Ann?), married John Lowe, a Regulator companion of Nancy's brother William.⁵

Will of Edmund Butler of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia⁶

The will is dated 27 April 1747 and was proved 17 September 1747.

In the name of God Amen I Edmund Butler of the Parish of Southam in the County of Goochland being very sick and weak but in perfect sense and memory hath thought it fit to constitute and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament and I do appoint my well beloved Wife Frances Butler Whole and Sole Executrix, and for my worldly goods I desire

¹For a faithful transcription of the *Autobiography*, see William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Aspen Books, 1993), pp. 369–434; the statement above is found on p. 371.

²Frances's surname *Cooke* (but not the names of her parents) was found among the papers of Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler, who was the grandson of William Butler, the Regulator, through the latter's son William. Edmund Butler's will was witnessed by a William Cooke; and a 1748 deed states that Edmund Butler's land was bounded in part by the land of one Thomas Cooke.

³This genealogy is found (2007) on the Family Tree Maker Genealogy web site.

⁴Ibid.

⁵See Regulator Papers, p. 17.

⁶Goochland County Wills Book 5, p. 342 (FHL book F Va 21 pt 4).

they may be lft [*sic*] in manner and form as followeth after my Lawful Debts are paid – viz –

Item – I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife Frances Butler all my movable Estate to raise my children on, and after to be at her disposal.

Item – I give and bequeath to my son Aaron Butler one hundred and forty seven acres of land at the lower end of my survey to be laid off in a regular form to him and his heirs forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my son John Butler one hundred acres of land joining the line of the above said Aaron to him and his heirs forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my son Edmund Butler one hundred acres of land joining the line of the above John Butler to him and his heirs forever.

Item – I give and bequeath to my son William Butler one hundred acres of land whereon the plantation is I now live on to him and his heirs forever.

In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal this twenty seventh day of April 1747.

[Witnesses] Charles Anderson, Charles Cottrill, William Cooke.

[signed] “E” and seal

(Edmund Butler, his mark and seal)

At a court held for Goochland County 17 Sept. 1747, this will was proved by the oaths of Charles Anderson and William Cooke and there upon ordered to be recorded.

Edmund Butler’s original land grant is described as “being a part of a tract or parcel of land formerly granted unto Edmund Butler by patent containing four hundred acres lying between Green Creek and Badluck [in Goochland County], branch of Appomattox river bearing the date the fifth of April one thousand seven hundred and forty eight and the said land is bounded by Peter Randolph, Thomas Cook, Henry Patillo and Aaron Butlers lines etc.”¹ In 1749, Cumberland County, Virginia, was formed from part of Goochland County; and the described Butler land was then in Cumberland County. (Note that the Henry Patillo named here is probably the Reverend Henry Pattillo named in the 1766 letter written by Frances Butler.)

Letter, 1766, from Frances Butler to Son “Bille”

Frances Butler to her Son Wm. Butler

Cumberland, 6th of November 1766

Dear Bille, By this you will know I am in health & likewise your Brothers and sisters so far as I know, thanks to God for it, I’ve no news to write, I live with Aaron and have for some time, I yesterday heard Mr. Pattillo preach a Funeral Sermon for Aaron’s child who died last Spring in April, was for Aaron’s good for he took a deal of pains to show us the need we all were in to prepare for the same, and how bad it will be with us if we neglect it. And now my dear son I would advise you as though this was my last advice to you, for God knows whether it will or not, for I know many of my days are passed, and it may be the case with you my son—and what accounts should we give were we now to die, do we believe we love God and his commands, so as to be accepted or do we know any thing of Christ who died to save sinners; —I don’t know how to speak to you about these things, because I fear you won’t love to hear it, but as you must know I love you as myself, and that I’ve nothing

¹Goochland County, Virginia, Patent Book 26 (1747–1748), p. 373.

else to give you, let me beg you will observe and prepare for the next world, I know you are sensible it's your duty to take care for you and yours in this life so as we may live in happiness to eternity, but I drop this, and I am obliged to you for writing to me, pray let me hear from you as often as possible, it's a comfort to me to hear of your welfare, and a sorrow to hear otherwise; to conclude, my love to your wife and family and accept the same yourself from your loving mother.

Frances Butler

Pr Favour the Rev. Mr. Pattillo

Letter, 1773, from William Watson to William Butler

Dated 30 May 1773 from William Watson, Jr., written from Charlotte (North Carolina or Virginia?), to William Butler, Waker's Creek, Fincastle County, Virginia

“Loving Brother, this comes to let you know that we are all in good health except mother [Frances Cooke Butler] and she is much better than she has been, although she is but very weak yet: your son seems to be very well satisfied, for he never once cried, or seemed for to want to see you as we could know of; — Brother Edmund Butler's family are all well and desire to be remembered to you and likewise brother Aaron Butler's family are likewise all well, and all the rest of our friends, that we had heard from of late: — we have had a letter from John Low since you were out there; and were glad to hear from you....I have not anything strange to inform you of, but all join together in sending our love to you & your family and remain as usual yours till death.”¹

Notes on Children of Edmund and Frances

1. Aaron Butler, named first in his father's 1747 will, received 147 acres of land “at the lower end of [Edmund's] survey” in Goochland County, Virginia. Aaron remained on the family acreage, and his mother Frances was living with him in 1766. When Aaron made his own will on 13 October 1776 in Cumberland County (created from Goochland County in 1749), he mentioned his “beloved wife,” but no name (was she Susanna Williams as some of the Butler genealogies suggest?). Aaron also mentioned daughters Frances Puckett and Sarah Williams, and sons John and Edmund Butler (note that another child had died in 1766).

2. John Butler was named second in his father's 1747 will, receiving 100 acres of the plantation. Sometime before 1765, he moved to Orange County, North Carolina, where he served as sheriff, collecting taxes for the King of England; and his brother William, a Regulator leader, actively protested payment of said taxes. Letters from John to his brother William (see “Regulator Papers,” p. 17), attest a warm relationship between the two, despite their ideologic differences. In fact, John appeared to watch anxiously over his brother William's notorious Regulator activities. John became a Brigadier General in the Militia and served in the Revolutionary War. John Butler and his wife Anne Armstrong had no children; and in his will, dated 17 May 1785, he left his entire estate to his wife Anne, not for life, but “in fee and forever.” According to one source, John died on his Mt. Pleasant plantation in Orange County on 20 May 1785.² On 2 December 1788, his widow married Captain Richard Christmas. This couple also had no children, and following Anne's death (she left no will), John Butler's vast estate reverted to Captain Christmas and to some of Anne's Armstrong

¹The entirety of this letter is found in William S. Powell, James K. Huhta, and Thomas J. Farnham, *The Regulators of North Carolina* (Raleigh, North Carolina: State Department of Archives and History, 1971), p. 543.

²Family Tree Maker Genealogy web site, “Descendants of Abraham Cooke, Sr.”

relatives. Children of William, the Regulator, and some of their cousins felt that their Uncle John's property and lands should belong to the Butler family, and they took legal action, apparently to little avail (see "Butler Family Papers," p. 23).

3. Edmund Butler II, named third in his father's will, received 100 acres of land. He and his wife Mary (also called Polly) Street lived in Virginia for over twenty years, then went to Georgia, following their son, Edmund III, who had located there. (Incidentally, Edmund III named a daughter Martha Claton or Clayton, suggesting possible evidence that Abraham Cooke and Martha Clayton were parents of Frances Cooke Butler)¹

4. William Butler, our ancestor, and his wife Phebe Childres moved to North Carolina, where he became a prominent leader in the pre-Revolutionary Regulator uprising. He later served in the Revolutionary War. By 1790, William had moved to Edgefield County, South Carolina, where, according to a statement of his wife Phebe in 1826, he died on 9 November 1790. William was buried in a grove on the Santee River.²

5. Daughter Butler, who married William Watson, Jr., was living in Charlotte (Virginia? North Carolina?) in 1773, when her husband wrote to "Brother William" reporting on the health of their mother, Frances Cooke Butler. In a will dated 15 December 1785 in Orange County, North Carolina, William Watson names wife Ellenor. However, was this *our* William Watson, Jr.? There was also a contemporary William Watson in Charlotte County, Virginia.³

6. Nancy (also called Ann) Butler married John Lowe, a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War. They lived in North Carolina, in South Carolina, and finally in Georgia, where John received a land grant for his service in the War.

There may also have been a daughter Hannah, who married Joseph Barksdale in Virginia and who migrated to Georgia with her brother Edmund; and it is possible that Edmund and Frances had another daughter named Frances (Fanny).⁴



¹Family Tree Maker Genealogy, "Descendants of Abraham Cooke, Sr."

²"Pheby Butler (aged about Eighty Years) made oath...that William Butler (brother of General John Butler) now deceased and who departed this life as well as she recollects on the ninth day of November A.D. 1790 in the state of South Carolina Edgfield County" (from the records of L.Q.C. Butler, in possession of John Henry Butler, 1972).

³Family Tree Maker Genealogy, "Descendants of Abraham Cooke, Sr."

⁴Ibid.

William Butler Family, p. 1

Family Group Record

Page 1 of 2

| Husband | | William Butler (Regulator leader) | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Born | Abt 1730 | Place | Of Goochland County, Virginia | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE | |
| Died | 9 Nov 1790 | Place | Edgefield County, South Carolina | Endowed | 18 Feb 1952 SLAKE | |
| Buried | | Place | | SealPar | 19 Nov 1958 SGEOR | |
| Married | Abt 1760 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | SealSp | 28 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| Husband's father | Edmund Butler | | | | | |
| Husband's mother | Frances Cooke | | | | | |
| Wife | | Phebe Childres (Childress) | | | | |
| Born | 1746 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | |
| Chr. | | Place | | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 | |
| Died | 26 Jan 1831 | Place | Simpson County, Kentucky | Endowed | 13 Feb 1952 | |
| Buried | 26 Jan 1831 | Place | Lowe's Burying Ground, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | | |
| Wife's father | | | | | | |
| Wife's mother | | | | | | |
| Children | | List each child in order of birth. | | | | |
| | | | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | |
| 1 | F | Elizabeth Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1762 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | Bef Sep 1825 | Place | Near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | James McKonnel or McConnal | | | |
| | | Married | 5 Apr 1785 | Place | Rowan County, North Carolina | |
| | | | | SealSp | 14 Jun 1973 LANGE | |
| 2 | M | John Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1764 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | Bef Nov 1841 | Place | | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | Jessie Knox | | | |
| | | Married | 3 Nov 1783 | Place | Rowan County, North Carolina | |
| | | | | SealSp | 13 Nov 1973 IFALL | |
| 3 | M | William Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | 2 Oct 1770 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | 12 Mar 1833 | Place | Plantation, near Houstonville, Iredell County, North Carolina | |
| | | Buried | 15 Mar 1833 | Place | Butler Cemetery, near Houstonville, Iredell County, North Carolina | |
| | | Spouse | Anna Gooden | | | |
| | | Married | 11 Feb 1799 | Place | Iredell County, North Carolina | |
| | | Spouse | Elizabeth Bean | | | |
| | | Married | 14 Apr 1804 | Place | Davie County, North Carolina | |
| | | | | SealSp | 13 Nov 1973 IFALL | |
| 4 | M | Thomas Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1772 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | | Place | | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | Miss Ellis | | | |
| | | Married | | Place | | |
| | | | | SealSp | | |
| 5 | M | James Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | 1774 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | Betw 1831-41 | Place | Simpson County, Kentucky | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | Charity Lowe | | | |
| | | Married | 1 Mar 1802 | Place | Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky | |
| | | | | SealSp | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| 6 | M | Samuel Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1777 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | | Place | | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | | | | |
| | | Married | | Place | | |
| | | | | SealSp | | |
| 7 | M | Aaron Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1780 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | |
| | | Died | 26 Apr 1848 | Place | Plantation, Fountain Head, Sumner County, Tennessee | |
| | | | | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | | Prepared by | Beryl Putnam Duffin | | Address | 2300 Anza Avenue |
| | | Phone | | | Address | Davis, California 95616 |
| | | E-mail address | | | | |
| | | Date prepared | 11 Aug 2007 | | | |

William Butler Family, p. 2

| Family Group Record | | | | | | Page 2 of 2 |
|---------------------|---|--|-------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------|
| Husband | | William Butler (Regulator leader) | | | | |
| Wife | | Phebe Childres (Childress) | | | | |
| Children | | List each child in order of birth. | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | |
| 7 | M | Aaron Butler | | | | |
| | | Buried | Place | | | |
| | | Spouse | Rosannah Bracken | | | |
| | | Married | 11 Feb 1804 | Place Sumner County, Tennessee | SealSp 13 Feb 1963 ARIZO | |
| 8 | M | Edmund Butler (attorney) | | | | |
| | | Born | Abt 1782 | Place Of Orange County, North Carolina | Baptized 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | Endowed 27 Feb 1952 SLAKE | |
| | | Died | Between 1834-1848 | Place Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | Polly Steele | | | |
| | | Married | 19 Jul 1808 | Place Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky | SealSp 6 Dec 1995 PROVO | |
| 9 | F | Frances (Fanny) Butler | | | | |
| | | Born | 11 Nov 1783 | Place Of Orange County, North Carolina | Baptized 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | Endowed 13 Feb 1952 SLAKE | |
| | | Died | 9 Nov 1855 | Place Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | |
| | | Spouse | Joseph Plummer | | | |
| | | Married | 20 Feb 1807 | Place Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky | SealSp 9 Oct 1975 ARIZO | |

John Lowe Butler identified his grandparents as “William and Phebe Butler.” He added that his Grandmother Butler’s name was Childres. On the 16th of April 1826, Phebe Butler stated that she was “aged about Eighty years”; and her son James Butler wrote that she was “about eighty-four” when she died in January 1831. These documents suggest that she was probably born in 1746.

Is our Phebe Childres the Phebia Childres or Childress, born about 1744 or so, who was the daughter of Henry Childres or Childress (his father was Henry Childers [*sic*]; and son Henry was reportedly the first in the Childers line to use the spelling Childres or Childress) and Mary Farmer of Henrico County and Lunenburg County, Virginia. It appears that William Butler, our Phebe’s husband, was born in Goochland County, Virginia, which was formed from part of Henrico County in 1727. Phebia’s father Henry made his will in 1760 and listed his eleven children, supposedly in order of birth: John, Lucresha, Phebia, Anne, Henry, Thomas, Millicent, Mary, Godfrey, Sarah, and David. Most of these names are rarely found among descendants of our Phebe Childres Butler, suggesting that our Phebe and Phebia might not be one and the same. Southern naming customs tended to repeat family names again and again.

However, the coincidence of name, birth time, and locality is compelling.

The line of Henry Childres, above, traces back to the early 1500s in the shire of Nottingham, England.

William Butler, Regulator Leader: Introduction

In his *Autobiography*, John Lowe Butler gave us a few short sentences about his family history. Although he may have known more of his Butler family history, this brief entry is all that he left his descendants:

“My father was James Butler. He was the fifth child of William and Phebe Butler. My Grand Mother Butler’s name was Childres before her marriage with my Grand Father. They had nine children: Elizabeth who Married James McKonnel, John, William, Thomas, James, Samuel, Aaron, Edmund, and Fanny who married Joseph Plumer....My Grandfather Butler had but one brother that I ever heard of. Their Father came from Ireland.”¹

For years, descendants of John Lowe Butler searched for this grandfather William Butler, without success. They found several William Butlers in Kentucky, North Carolina, and Virginia (the Regulator leader included), but not one piece of evidence could be found to link John Lowe Butler and his father James Butler to any of these William Butlers.

Then, in August 1971, at the Priesthood Genealogical Seminar at Brigham Young University, Dr. John Coddington, lecturer on Colonial America research, happened to mention that the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill housed a vast collection of manuscript material of genealogical value. I sent for the Library’s catalog, *The Southern Historical Collection: A Guide to Manuscripts*, by Blosser and Wilson; at the catalog’s printing in 1970, the collection included approximately 5,000,000 manuscripts, arranged in slightly over 3900 groups. Two listings caught my attention:

Set 1: *Regulator Papers*, comprising letters and other papers pertaining to the Regulator movement and its aftermath, chiefly papers of William Butler, a Regulator leader.

Set 2: *Butler Family Papers*, of the Butlers of North Carolina, including items relating to William Butler, Regulator leader, and papers of his son and grandson regarding a disputed inheritance.

At about the same time, I learned about a new book that had just been published: William S. Powell, James K. Huhta, and Thomas J. Farnham, editors, *The Regulators in North Carolina: A Documentary History, 1759–1776* (Raleigh, North Carolina: State Department of Archives and History, 1971). The book’s 626 pages comprise transcriptions of most of the known documents relating to the Regulator movement in North Carolina.

I also sent for copies of the two sets of papers listed in the catalog. Set 1 was presented to the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill by Margaret Kingsbury of Wilmington, North Carolina, on 30 January 1967; the set consists of nineteen items relating to the Regulator movement in North Carolina, given in 1844 to Dr. Theodore B. Kingsbury by Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler, grandson of William Butler, Regulator, through the latter’s son William. Five of these nineteen items were original manuscripts, and fourteen were copies from originals. Among the documents in this set is a copy of the letter written in 1766 by Frances Butler to her son “Bille” (William Butler, the Regulator), signed “your loving mother.” (Most of these items are transcribed in the book cited above, *Regulators in North Carolina*.)

¹John Lowe Butler’s original Autobiography is filed in the Archives of the Historical Department, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah. An excellent transcription is found in William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom: History and Autobiography of John Lowe Butler, a Mormon Frontiersman* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Aspen Books, 1993), pp. 369–434.

Set 2 of the listings in the catalog was given to the Chapel Hill Library (also on 30 January 1967) by William Butler of Fremont, New Hampshire, a grandson of L.Q.C. Butler. This second set consists of copies of twelve manuscripts, three pertaining to William Butler, Regulator leader, with most of the remaining relating to efforts of the Regulator's sons to acquire property of their late uncle, John Butler. In this second set of papers is the 1824 letter written by the Regulator's widow, Phebe Butler (who, around 1800, had gone to Simpson County, Kentucky, with her son James, our ancestor) to her son William Butler, who had stayed in North Carolina; he died there in 1833 on his plantation in Iredell County. It was then that the chest of Regulator and family documents in his possession was left to L.Q.C. Butler, his oldest son. (Note that this chest of papers was never in Kentucky with Phebe Butler, the wife of the Regulator; it was in North Carolina with his son William and, subsequently, with William's descendants.)

In 1886, when L.Q.C. Butler died, John Alexander Butler, as administrator of his father L.Q.C.'s estate, became keeper of this chest of Butler family documents. In 1971, John Alexander Butler's daughter, Beatrice Butler Ferguson, wrote:

"My father had invaluable family records. His younger brother James A. [James Augustus] asked to borrow the records. My father let him have them very reluctantly. We children were not allowed to open the chest!

"My father passed away, suddenly, at the age of fifty-one (1904). This left the records in the home of the younger brother, James Augustus Butler. He and his wife passed away, the same week, of pneumonia in 1908, leaving four small children: William [the William Butler of Fremont, New Hampshire, who donated Set 2 of the Butler Family Papers to the Chapel Hill Library in 1967], John Henry, James, and Mary Hunt. William (a Minister in Tennessee), the older brother of John Alexander and James Augustus, was administrator for his brother James Augustus Butler's estate. He had an estate sale in Statesville, North Carolina, and saw this chest of papers, which he recognized as important. His nephew, a Wilson, was there, and William [the Minister] told him, 'Keep these papers until I call for them. They belong to John' (meaning my father, John Alexander). This cousin assumed that Uncle William was referring to young John Henry, son of James Augustus. This Wilson cousin would not allow my mother or my older brothers and sisters to get the records. The Wilson children were allowed to go through these papers—cut out newspaper pictures, etc. We were all terribly upset.

"Finally, John Henry [of Winchester, Kentucky], son of James Augustus Butler and brother of William Butler of Fremont, New Hampshire, was given what was left of the records that my grandfather [L.Q.C. Butler] passed along to my father [John Alexander Butler]."¹

In 1972, John Henry Butler of Winchester, Kentucky, still had this chest of Butler papers in his possession. It was apparently from this chest that John Henry's brother William Butler of Fremont, New Hampshire, had copied the Butler documents he (William) presented to the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill in 1967.²

Evidence in the sets of papers from the Chapel Hill University Library, as well as documentation found in the *The Regulators in North Carolina* (book cited earlier), establishes beyond doubt that John

¹Letter, dated 31 December 1971, to Beryl Putnam Duffin from Beatrice Butler Ferguson of Gastonia, North Carolina.

²In 1971 and 1972, John Henry Butler, of Winchester, Kentucky, wrote letters to his cousin, Beatrice Butler Ferguson, of Gastonia, North Carolina, sharing genealogical data from the documents in his possession; and Beatrice sent copies of these letters to Beryl Putnam Duffin. John Henry Butler, in his letter dated 27 February 1972, wrote that he would be 73 on June 25.

Lowe Butler's Grandfather Butler is in fact William Butler, one of the leaders of the Regulator movement in North Carolina during the 1760s and 1770s. Note, however, that we would not have been able to make this connection without the brief but valuable information that John Lowe Butler gave us in his Autobiography: His grandfather was named William Butler; his grandmother was Phebe "Childres"; and these grandparents had nine children: Elizabeth (who married James McKonnel), John, William, Thomas, James, Samuel, Aaron, Edmund, and Fanny (who married Joseph Plumer). The Butler granduncle mentioned by John ("My Grandfather Butler had but one brother that I ever heard of") is the General John Butler whose personal estate fell into the hands of Richard Christmas, his widow's second husband, the real estate having gone to the Armstrongs, her own relatives. Since the General had no children of his own, some of his nephews (sons of the Regulator, specifically, William of North Carolina, Edmund of Kentucky, and Aaron of Tennessee) tried to claim right, as blood relatives, to some of the General's estate—apparently with no success.

Part One that follows, "Regulator Papers," summarizes information relating to William Butler and his Regulator activities, from documents found in Set 1 of the Chapel Hill Library collection and in the book cited earlier, *The Regulators in North Carolina*.

Part Two, "Butler Family Papers," consists of transcripts of the letters and other documents in Set 2 of the Chapel Hill Library collection.

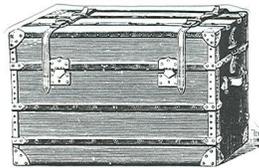
Part Three, "Genealogical Gleanings," summarizes the genealogical data gathered from the above two groups of documents.

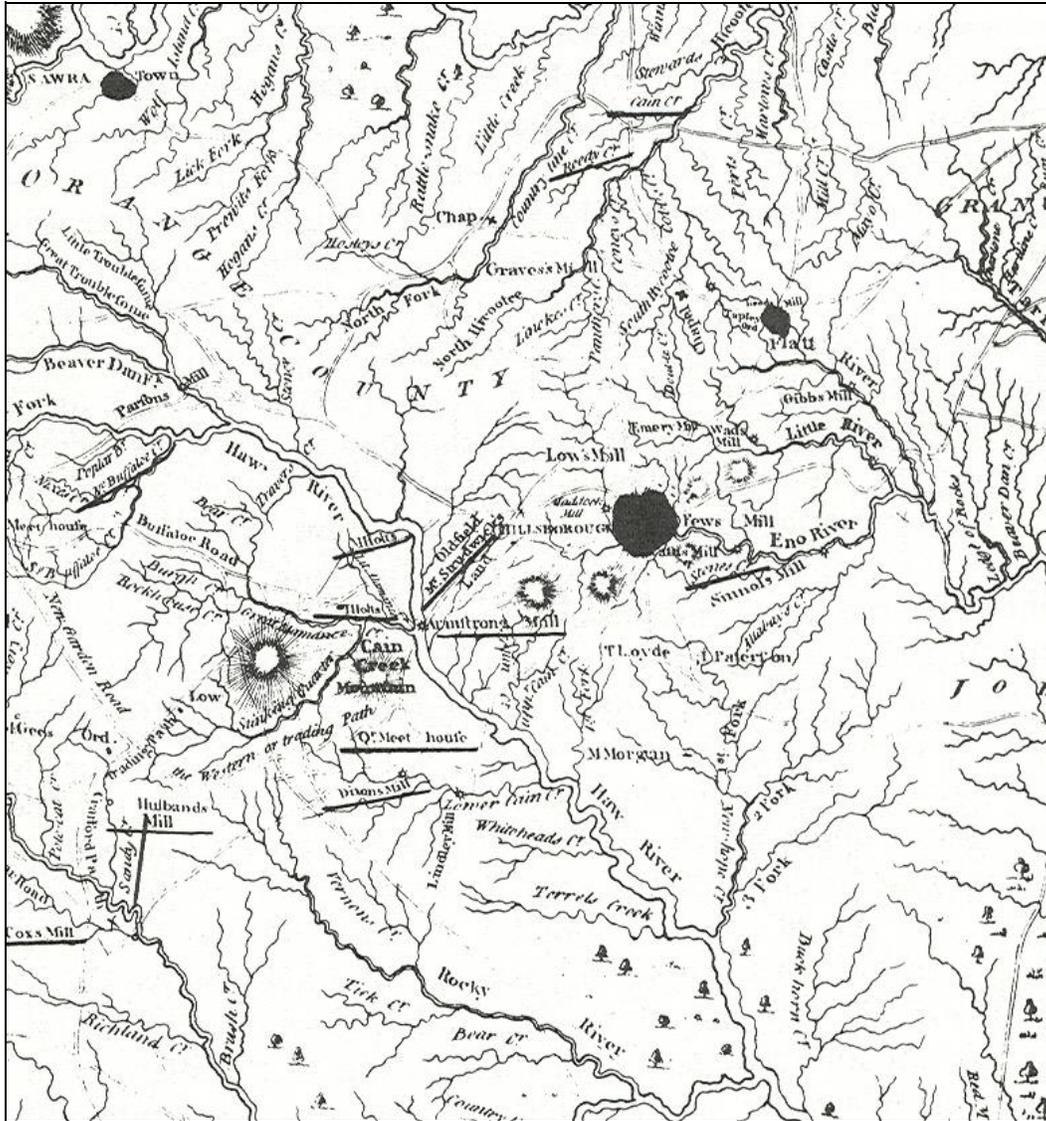
Part Four is a biographical sketch of the Reverend Henry Pattillo, the Presbyterian minister mentioned in the 1766 letter of Frances Butler.

Part Five, "North Carolina Cousins," provides genealogical information on the Regulator's son William Butler, who did not go to Kentucky with his mother Phebe, his brother James (our ancestor), and others of the Regulator's family; it was this William who passed the chest of Regulator and Butler family papers on to his descendants.

Part Six, "Additional Letters," consists of transcripts of three family letters not included with the sets of documents from the Chapel Hill Library.

Beryl Putnam Duffin
December 1971
Revised 1999, 2007





The Orange County section of “A Compleat Map of North Carolina from an Actual Survey,” by Captain Collet, Governor of Fort Johnston, 1770 (from Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, p. 114).

The map above shows Orange County as it was in 1770. Sandy Creek is shown in the lower left of the map; see also Hermon (also spelled Herman, Harmon) Husband’s Mill located there. In April 1768, Husband organized the Regulator dissidents into a formal organization. The reader is referred to the video *Alamance*, produced in 1996 by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television and Video Dialog Inc. Set in eighteenth-century North Carolina, the video depicts “a colony overrun with corruption, oppression and over-taxation” by the ruling English government. Colonel Edmund Fanning and Governor Tryon are shown glutting themselves on spoils from the struggling colonist farmers. “It’s a setting ripe for revolution—which is just what happens when a band of farmers rises up to protest the policies of the colonial powers-that-be. *Alamance* tells the story of the protest—known as the Regulator movement—as seen through the eyes of Herman Husband, a Quaker farmer and Assembly member. Husband witnesses the dramatic rise and fall of the Regulators—a movement that culminates in the Battle of Alamance with tragic results.”

Part One Regulator Papers

The following summary of William Butler and his activities as a Regulator leader is found in the book, *The Regulators in North Carolina*:

William Butler of Orange County, North Carolina, was one of the most active leaders of the Regulators. He was apparently of a violent temperament and quite outspoken. In September 1768, he was found guilty of “Rout [*riote*], Assault, etc.,” fined £50, and sentenced to six months imprisonment. In September 1770, he was one of the mob that assaulted the attorneys at the courthouse in Hillsborough and attempted to strike Judge Richard Henderson. The following March he was listed among those who were “still continuing their riotous meetings and severally threatening the Judges, lawyers, and other officers of the court.” After the battle of Alamance, a reward of 1,000 acres of land and £100 was offered for the capture of Butler and three other Regulators. Declared an outlaw in June 1771, he was also one of three men cited by name as not to be pardoned. After the departure of Governor Tryon for New York, Butler petitioned Governor Josiah Martin and his council for forgiveness. He was, he said, “full Convinced that the principles which [the Regulators] had espoused were Erroneous, and therefore most Sincerely promise never to engage in the like again.” His brother, John Butler, also entered a plea in his behalf. William served in the Revolutionary army...a member of the Continental Line. His brother John, apparently not a Regulator, became a Brigadier General of the North Carolina militia.¹

Orange County was created in 1752 from Bladen, Granville, and Johnston Counties. It was on the frontier and far removed from the eastern center of government. Many of the citizens were poor independent people who felt oppressed by the local officials delegated by the provincial government in New Bern to manage the colonists’ affairs. The Sandy Creek community in present-day Randolph County, where the Reverend Shubael Stearns founded Sandy Creek Baptist Church in 1755, was the home of many active Regulators.² Hermon Husband, considered the leader of the Regulator movement, lived in Sandy Creek. Although he held himself aloof from the ensuing acts of violence (he was a Quaker), he was certainly a driver and agitator in the movement. Besides William Butler, the other major leaders in the Regulation were Rednap Howell and James Hunter, who was referred to as the “General” of the movement.

The Regulators (wanting to regulate their own affairs) had a legitimate cause. Local officials were frequently not local men, but appointed by English rulers who made little attempt to check on the honesty of their appointees. As early as May 1759, minutes of the Governor’s Council refer to “Authors of Several Riots, Routs and unlawful Assemblies.” Citizens of the counties of Anson, Orange, and Granville in 1764 created a number of local disturbances until a proclamation was issued

¹William S. Powell, James K. Huhta, and Thomas J. Farnham, editors, *The Regulators in North Carolina: A Documentary History, 1759–1776* (Raleigh, North Carolina: State Department of Archives and History, 1971), pp. 577–590. An article, describing in graphic detail the Hillsborough courthouse assault in September 1770, appeared in the *New York Gazette*, 5 October 1770. The article stated that “these people [the Regulators] have for a long time opposed paying all manner of taxes”; it further claimed that James Hunter and William Butler, two of the Regulator “chiefs,” on the day following the courthouse event, stripped and “in the buff,” ransacked Colonel Fanning’s house (*ibid.*, p. 257). One wonders if this unusual behavior might be related to William Butler’s Irish roots. “The Irish, like all the Celts [third century, B.C.], stripped before battle and rushed their enemy naked, carrying sword and shield but wearing only sandals and torc—a twisted, golden neck ornament.” See Thomas Cahill, *How the Irish Saved Civilization* (New York: Doubleday, 1995), p. 82.

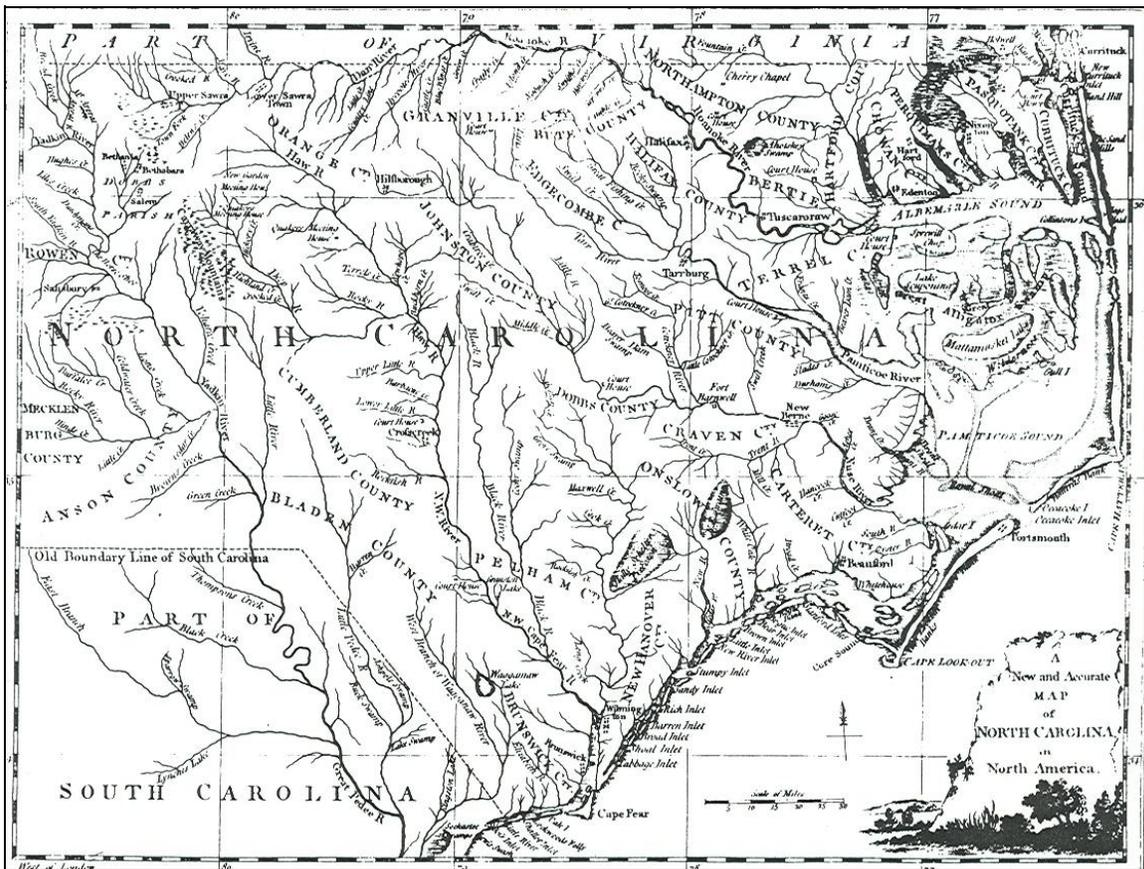
²Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, p. 590.

against the taking of illegal fees. It was not enforced and county officers continued extorting excessive fees and taxes from colonists.

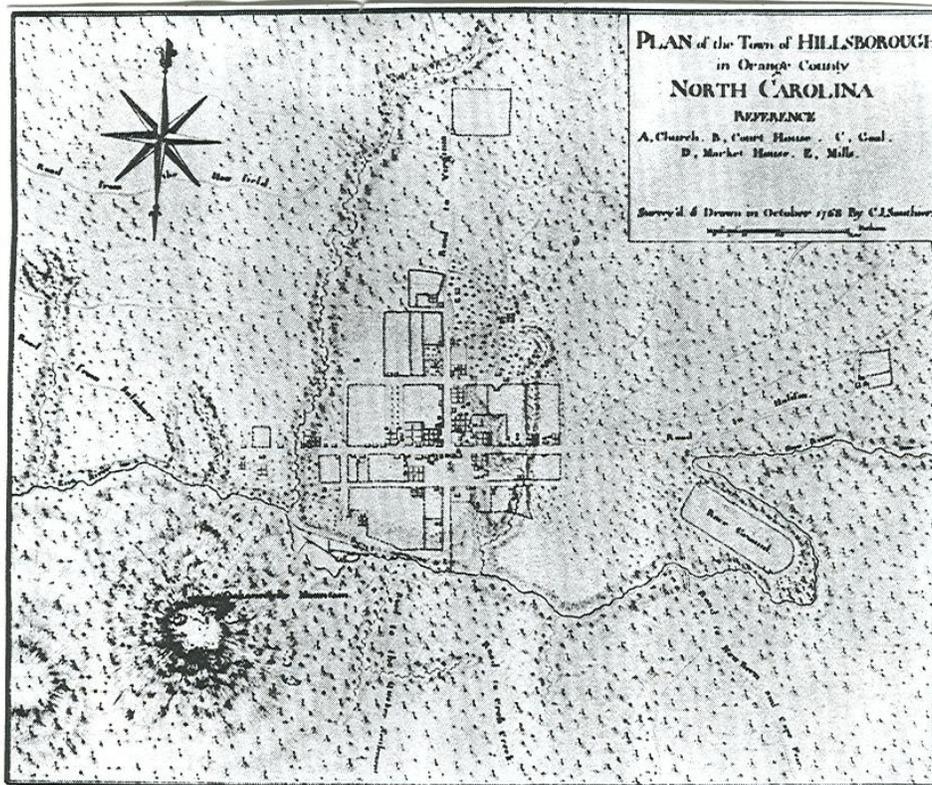
Only minor clashes occurred until the spring of 1768, when real trouble between the Regulators and officials for the Crown began. Failing efforts on the part of the Regulators to be listened to and to be given redress of wrongs led to anger and violence.

The Regulator movement was crushed when its ill-prepared army of men met the well organized troops of Governor Tryon on the banks of Alamance Creek in Orange County in May 1771.

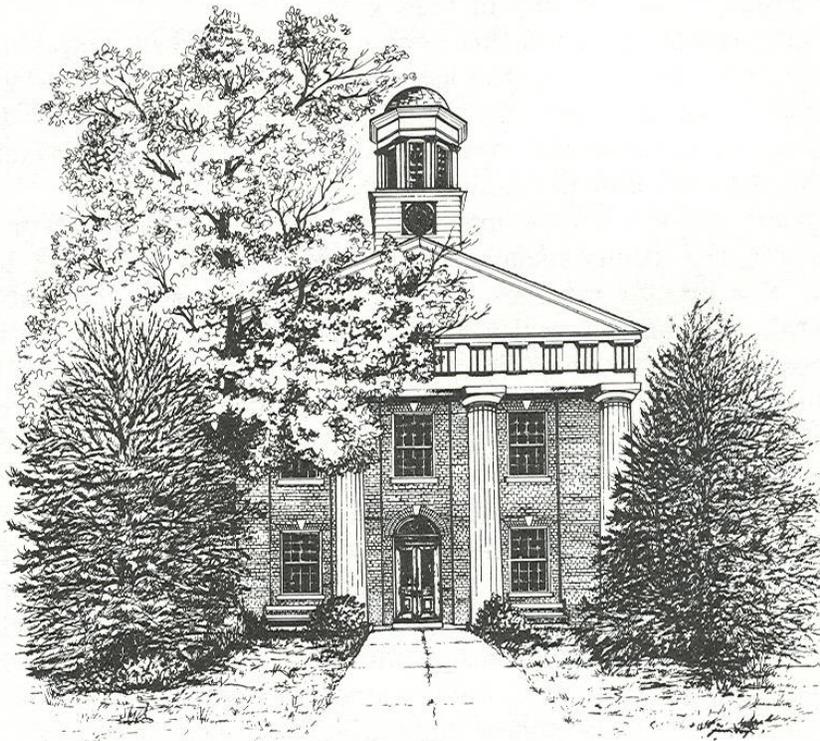
Students of the Revolutionary War cite the Regulator movement as providing an example for the later clash that brought American independence from England. It had its greatest effect upon places such as Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, where sympathy and common feelings of discontent with the Regulators contributed to the growing movement toward the American Revolution.



“A New and Accurate Map of North Carolina in North America.” Printed in the *Universal Magazine*, London. The map is considered a 1779 “pirated” version of the Collet map of 1770 (from Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, frontispiece).



Plan of the Town of Hillsborough in Orange County, 1768
 From Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, p. 242



Old Orange County Courthouse in Hillsborough, North Carolina
 From Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, p. 78

From the *Virginia Gazette* in Williamsburg, 6 June 1771:

From the different Accounts we have been able to collect, since our last, of the Battle in North Carolina [Battle of Alamance, 16 May 1771], we find that the Description we then gave of it varied but in few Particulars from the Reality. We shall now mention what farther has come to our knowledge of that Engagement: That Governor Tryon had under him a Thousand Men, and that the Regulators amounted to three and twenty Hundred;¹ that his Excellency was much insulted by them, particularly one Fellow, whom



Governor Tryon and the Regulators
Sketch from Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, p. 150

he shot dead on the spot, as he was approaching him; that this happened but a very short Time before the Expiration of the two Hours allowed them by the Governor, upon which the Engagement began; that both Parties fought with great Animosity, for two Hours and upwards; that the Artillery was discharged six and thirty Times, and that one Shot struck a Tree, which in its Fall killed thirty odd of the Regulators, that the Governour had his horse killed under him, and the Breech of the Gun he had in his Hand shot away; that a Hundred and sixty of the Regulators were killed, and two Hundred wounded, forty of whom were taken Prisoners; that the Regulators were badly conducted, and fought in the utmost Confusion, their Ranks being, in some Places, a Hundred Men deep, and that many of them were unarmed; that the Governor had only two Men killed, and sixty wounded. One Man, it is said, of the Governour's party, was so much incensed against the Regulators, by whom he had been threatened, that he was determined upon an ample Revenge, or losing his life; for it is thought he killed upwards of thirty with his own Hands, walking backwards and forwards on the Flanks of his Party during the Engagement, and charging with as much Coolness as if hunting of Squirrels. The Regulators have lost a Number of Horses, Guns, and Carriages; to the amount it is said, of more than a Thousand Pounds. The Families of these poor deluded People are much to be pitied, as they must be reduced to very great distress. The Province likewise, in general, is in the greatest disorder. And however faulty those who stile themselves Regulators may have been, as we learn that the cause of their Complaints has been removed (their leaders, it is probable, being bad counsellors, and to have urged them on from one Step of Rebellion to another), it ought to be a lesson for all good Governments to suffer no Set of Men, under the Sanction of Authority, to fleece the People.²

¹According to Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, pp. xxiii–xxv, Governor Tyron had about 1000 men and officers in his company, along with companies from Carteret, Orange, Beaufort, New Hanover, and Dobbs Counties. The Regulators had about 2,000 men. Tryon's forces lost nine killed and sixty-one wounded, while the Regulators lost the same number killed and a large but undetermined number of wounded.

²Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, pp. 471–472.

Extracts from Selected Regulator Papers¹

Letter to William Butler from mother Frances Butler, written from Cumberland, 6 November 1766.

Frances addresses her son as “Bille” and states, “I live with Aaron [William’s brother] and have for some time.” She refers to William’s “Brothers & Sisters” and asks about William’s “wife and family.” She had “yesterday heard Mr Pattillo preach a Funeral Sermon for Aaron’s child who died last Spring in April” (p. 37).²

Letter from Governor William Tryon to William Butler (fragment only), ordering procedure to collect taxes (“publick, county and Parochial”) in Orange County for the year 1767 (p. 151).

Regulator Advertisement #5, 22 March 1768. A request by the people of the west side of Haw River to Assembly and Vestry Men of Orange County to reduce taxes. James Watson was sent to Maddock Mills to negotiate but was not successful (p. 79). (Note that in a 1773 letter, William Watson, Jr., appears to be a brother-in-law to William Butler.)

John Butler (William’s brother) and Isaac Low sign 1768 petition from Orange County inhabitants to Governor Tryon regarding a recent legislation (p. 75).

Minutes of Regulator Meeting, 4 April 1768. Peter Craven and John Low are selected to present requests to Sheriffs and Vestry Men (p. 80). (Note: John Low is frequently mentioned in connection with William Butler.)

Communication to Edmund Fanning (Judge of Superior Court in Hillsborough) from Lieutenant Colonel John Gray regarding a letter on 13 April 1768 and a subsequent warrant for the arrest of William Butler, Peter Craven, and Ninian Bell Hamilton. On 8 April, these “principals” had forcibly retrieved a horse that had been “distrained [seized] for a Levy” (p. 80). (An outraged band of Regulators had attacked Fanning’s house in Hillsborough to take back a horse that was stolen from them; and Fanning ordered the arrest of William Butler, Peter Craven, and Ninian Bell Hamilton, “leaders of the mob.”)



Edmund Fanning (p. 85)

Regulator Minutes, 25 April 1768, show signatures of William Butler, John Low, Ninian Hamilton, Isaac Jackson, and James Hunter. During the Council Meeting, William Butler states he will “restrain” from going to Hillsborough on 11 May if distress of tax levies are alleviated (p. 88).

¹Page numbers, from William S. Powell, James K. Huhta, and Thomas J. Farnham, *The Regulators in North Carolina, 1759–1776* (Raleigh, North Carolina: State Department of Archives and History, 1971).

²Both Virginia and North Carolina have a Cumberland County, but it is probable that this letter was written from Cumberland, Virginia, since Aaron Butler’s plantation was in Cumberland County, Virginia. He made his will there on 13 October 1776. The letter was sent to William “pr. Favour the Rev Mr. Pattillo,” who would be returning to his congregations in Orange County.

John Butler signs Regulator Advertisement #8, 30 April 1768, as one of appointed settlers of differences (p. 97).

Regulator Advertisement #10, 21 May 1768, appoints John Low, with others, to take a petition to the Governor (p. 113).

Regulator Advertisement #11, 21 May 1768, affirms that Regulators had expected a meeting with government officials to hear grievances, but instead “James Watson came alone with a paper containing frivolous objections.” John Low is one of the signers of this Advertisement (pp. 114–121).

Letter from Ralph McNair to Hermon Husband, May or June 1768. Requests Husband to “bring...Mr. William Butler, Mr. John Lowe, and Mr. James Hunter,” and “any two or three candid discerning men in your Neighborhood [Sandy Creek]...” The meeting will concern problems imposed upon them by the officials (p. 123).¹

John Low represents Regulators in committee to petition the Governor in June 1768 (p. 124).

William Butler tried in Hillsborough Court, July 1768; convicted and sentenced to fines and imprisonment (pp. xix–xx).

Petition from Regulators to Governor Tryon, August 1768, for redress of wrongs and extortions by officers of Orange County, written from Hillsborough and signed by William Butler, Samuel Low, and twenty others (p. 150).

Letter (unidentified sender), written possibly August 1768: “John Butler stands in a very bad light with all the honest party....James Low was carried to town with a rope about his neck and ironed hands and feet and the high Sheriff came and told them they had no business to have taken him, he made them take the irons off his feet so he escaped their hands but the private mischief being done he then threatened them with the high horse till it was quite worn out and became quite concerned and then began to threaten that the outlaws would not get pardoned”(p. 151).

Deposition of Tyree Harris, late Sheriff of Orange County, 3 August 1768. Deposition states that William Butler declared himself to the purpose of menacing the Officers; that if he [Harris] had tried to collect taxes from William Butler, he would have endangered his life (p. 152).

¹Hermon Husband lived on Sandy Creek, now in Randolph County, North Carolina, and he held extensive land. He was from Pennsylvania, raised a Quaker, and a relation of Dr. Benjamin Franklin. Although he was deficient in education, he was a man who felt strongly, and expressed himself forcibly. Many of his neighbors spoke of him as a man of strict integrity, a firm advocate of popular rights, and a determined foe to oppression and extortion. Undeserved wrong and official oppression may have driven him to imprudences, but the purity of his character was above suspicion. From his pen proceeded the paper read to the court in Orange; the resolutions of the Maddock’s Mill Convention were his; he was the favorite of the people—for he was their representative to the General Assembly—and when he was arrested and carried to Hillsborough, the whole people rose to his rescue. From John Hill Wheeler, *History of North Carolina* (Baltimore, Maryland: Regional Publishing Company, 1964 [first published in 1851]), p. 55.

John Low and James Hunter, 5 August 1768, deliver a letter to Governor Tryon at Hillsborough (p. 157).

Letter to Regulators from Governor Tryon, 13 August 1768. Response to letter that Low and Hunter delivered to him on the 5th. Decrees that a Bond will be executed of one thousand pounds as a “security that no Rescue shall be made of William Butler and Harmon Husband at the Superior Court at Hillsborough, they being under recognizance there to appear and take their trial” (p. 159).

Letter from Tyree Harris to William Tryon, 29 October 1768, from Orange County. States that he [Harris] had seen “Ninian Hamilton, John Lowe, and about Twenty others” and they declared themselves ready to comply with law. William Butler was also one of the Regulators Harris saw (p. 194).

Letter from William Tryon to Lord Hillsborough, 24 December 1768, from Brunswick. At Superior Court in Hillsborough, William Butler was fined £50 and six months imprisonment (pp. 213–214).

Letter from John Butler to “Brother William” Butler, “Pr Thos. Green, living on Sandy Creek, February 1st 1769.” John is expecting a visit from William and his wife with John Lowe. States that Tyree Harris expresses desire of “your taking the collection of all the taxes on the North side of Haw River; he is willing to give 6 pr. cent with all the distress money if any such I am not to advise you for nor against” (p. 217).

Deposition of William Butler, 19 February 1770, Orange County, North Carolina. Oath to office of Orange County Sheriff (p. 239).

Court Order, 22 March 1770, at Hillsborough, Orange County, North Carolina. William Butler is ordered to appear in court for failing to pay the “several fees due the Crown” (p. 239).

Attack at Superior Court, Hillsborough, 24 September 1770. William Butler with 150 Regulators armed with sticks break up Superior Court in Hillsborough (p. xxi).

James Watson and others to Governor William Tryon, 30 September 1770, from Hillsborough. Discusses “unheard of Insolence” by Regulators; requests orders to clamp down (p. 248).

New York Gazette account of “extraordinary conduct” of Regulators, headed New Bern, 5 October 1770. Butler is one of the chiefs performing the outrages (p. 257).

Letter from William Tryon to James Watson and others, 7 October 1770. Promises action against the Regulators (p. 259).

Deposition of Ralph McNair, 9 October 1770, at New Bern, North Carolina: On Monday, 24 September last, at Hillsborough, McNair saw several Regulators, William Butler one of them, armed with wooden cudgels or cowskin whips, assault and beat John Williams, Esq., and Richard Henderson, Associate Judge of the Province, while he tried to get from the Bench Window. They surrounded the Court House, beat and pursued Colonel Fanning, who took refuge in a store. They demolished the windows, threw dirt and stones or brick bats into the house to force

him out. They patrolled the streets during the night and terrorized the inhabitants. Fanning's house was assaulted, windows broken, furniture broken, liquor consumed and bottles broken. Fanning's house left in ruin (p. 261).

Petition from Regulators to Chief Justice Martin Howard, 19 October 1770, Orange County Courthouse at Hillsborough. Officers continue to extort money, James Watson and John Butler excepted (p. 269).

Interrogatories and depositions, 7 December 1770, put to John Butler, Esquire, Sheriff of the County of Orange, at the Bar of the House. _____ Low, Esq., is mentioned in this paper; John Butler was to receive taxes at Low's house, but was presented with a Regulator paper instead (p. 291).

Battle of Alamance, 16 May 1771.

Letter from John Butler to William Butler, 14 August 1771:

Brother William, I make no doubt that you disapprove of the proceedings of Government against the Regulators, but be that as it will, I can assure you that the good effects thereof are very sensibly felt by the Inhabitants of this province in general; and of this county in particular—for you very well know that for the three or four years past, the persons and property of each Subject hath been in great danger because the laws hath been held under by club law in that arbitrary Tyrant, but now things seem as if they want to view in their proper channel again—notwithstanding there is lately some private mischief done. The outlawed men may I think get their pardon if they will ask it; I suppose that you never intend to live in this Province again, it might nevertheless be some satisfaction to you to have yours, and to that purpose I think it advisable that you send a petition in your own name or send me a letter desiring me to petition the Governor in your behalf; I am under necessity of going to Newbern this Fall; and if you would take the trouble of sending your writing to me Pryore before the 20th of October next, I should get it on the 22nd which is our Court day. The people hereabouts are well and hoping these will find you in the same condition. I add no more but am your loving brother. [Signed] John Butler¹

Petitions for pardon for William Butler, presented at Court, 22 October 1771:

To His Excellency Josiah Martin, His Majesty's Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of North Carolina, and to the Members of His Majesty's Honourable Council

The petition of William Butler Humbly Sheweth that, your Humble petitioner, by means of my own unwarrantable behaviour; being influenced by others to Commit Sundry outrages against the Laws of this government; and am now in a state of outlawry; to the great grief of myself; and the ruin of my family; it is with the utmost abhorance that I Reflect on the proceedings of the people formerly Called Regulators, being fully Convinced that the principles which they had espoused were Erroneous, and therefore most Sincerely promise never to engage in the like again; Humbly hoping and begging that you in your great wisdom and goodness will procure my pardon and your Humble petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray WILLIAM BUTLER

To His Excellency Josiah Martin, His Majesty's Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of North Carolina

The Petition of John Butler Humbly sheweth that, Whereas my Brother William Butler; is by the Laws of this Province, in a state of outlawry, and notwithstanding, the very Extraordinary unlawful and unconstitutional proceedings of him and others, made it necessary for Examples to be made of some, yet I Humbly hope that mercy may yet be found with your Excellency for one who is very sensible of

¹This letter is not published in Powell, Huhta, and Farnham, but is one of the papers in Set 1, from the Chapel Hill Library.

his folly and who Sincerely promises never to be one of Such a Riotous party again; his own petition is herewith presented to your Excellency; Humbly begging pardon; which I most Humbly and Heartily beg, your Excellency, will be pleased to grant and your Humble Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray JOHN BUTLER¹

Letter from John Butler to William Butler, 2 August 1772. Mentions William Watson: “wrote letter to him through Mama.” Has petitioned with no answer for brother William Butler’s pardon. Recommends skipping country—“South Carolina or Georgia I would recommend rather than that cold, wild country Mississippi” (pp. 536–537).

Letter from John Borton to William Tynor, 31 August 1772. “I have waited a long time for you to come and pay me, but it seems you never will do it; as you have behaved yourself so ill to me I have given William Butler the order to receive it and this shall be your receipt as you shall see by the account thus stated...” The debt is itemized as one rifle gun, three pounds of wool, and five pounds of “Deerskins,” valued collectively at 6 British pounds, 4 shillings, 4 pence. (This letter is among the Regulator papers in Set 1 from the Chapel Hill Library, but not published in Powell, Huhta, and Farnham.)

Letter from James Hunter to William Butler, 6 November 1772. Concerns Regulator activities and problems; members, including William, hiding out...“If you should go to that far country, I wish that you will come and see me first...” (p. 537).

Letter from William Watson, Jr., to William Butler, written from Charlotte, 30 May 1773. States that “Mother” is weak yet; mentions Brother Edmund Butler and Brother Aaron Butler, and John Lowe. William Watson, Jr., appears to be a brother-in-law to William Butler. Note that William is addressed as “Loving Brother,” and reference is made to “Brothers” Aaron and Edmund Butler’s families. Mentions receiving letter from John Low, apparently out with William Butler at this time. The letter is addressed to William Butler, Fincastle County, head Waker’s Creek (p. 543).

Letter from John Butler to William Butler, 25 June 1775. Discusses Regulator business, problems throughout colonies, etc. (p. 548).

North Carolina, Tryon District, to wit, 3 August 1775. This day the inhabitants of the District aforesaid met at the house of James Senian and voted that the County committee meet at Hillsborough on Saturday next (written by John Butler to his brother William Butler, naming the receipt of William’s letter of “16th Ultimate” [last, i. e., 16 July 1775] by favour of his cousin James). (This letter is among the Regulator papers in Set 1 from the Chapel Hill Library, but not published in Powell, Huhta, and Farnham.)

¹William Saunders, Secretary of State, *Colonial Records of North Carolina*, Vol. 9 (New York: AMS Press, 1968), pp. 99–100. (These petitions are not reproduced in Powell, Huhta, and Farnham.) It seems probable that John Butler composed his brother’s petition, as well as his own (see letter 2 August 1772 from John to William). One cannot help but wonder if William was really as repentant as these petitions would indicate.

Revolutionary War Service, 10th Regiment, Continental Line: William Butler a private in Blount's Company; enlisted 20 July 1778; served 9 months.¹

Certification of Service of William Butler, 21 December 1781. "Has stood his draft and is clear from this Tower of Duty." Signed, Alexr. Awtry Capt. (p. 563). [Question: Did William Butler serve more than once in the Revolutionary War?]

Memorandum from Superior Court at Hillsborough, 5 July 1819. Mention again of William Butler and other Regulators' riotous conduct on Monday, 24 September 1770, at Hillsborough. In March Term 1771, William Butler and others were still continuing riotous meetings. Also, a statement of Joseph MacPherson ("an old man of 71 at Salem, 5 July 1810"): "William Butler was an able man of but little property" (pp. 563–564, 569).

Death of William Butler: "On the 16th of April 1826, Pheby Butler (Aged about Eighty Years) made oath...that William Butler (brother of General John Butler now deceased) departed this life as well as she recollects on the ninth day of November A.D. 1790 in the state of South Carolina Edgfield County."²



¹Walter Clark, *The State Records of North Carolina*, Vol. 16 (New York: AMS Press, 1970), p. 1019.

²Written by John Henry Butler, of Winchester, Kentucky, in letter dated 27 February 1972, to his cousin Beatrice Butler Ferguson of Gaston, North Carolina; copied from document in his possession, which was a copy of the original that had been made by L.Q.C. Butler in 1843.

Part Two Butler Family Papers

Since these letters are unpublished and of great genealogical value, they are transcribed here verbatim (as nearly as is possible; some of the letters are difficult to decipher).

Letter from William Norwood to "Sir." Letter heading, Hillsborough, 25 February 1823.¹ The envelope is mailed from Hillsboro, Feby 26, and is addressed to Mr. Edmund Butler, Franklin, Kentucky. The letter has a big piece torn out of the center and consists of an answer to a request for Norwood to look into the property left by John Butler now occupied by Richard Christmas. Mr. Norwood states he is not now practicing law but names three lawyers in Hillsborough who would be willing to help: Thomas Ruffan, John Scott, and Priestly Mangum, "respectable Gentlemen of the Bar." Norwood also suggests a note of four or five dollars "to compensate for the trouble" and closes with "I am Sir Your Humble Servt., Wm. Norwood."

Letter from Phebe Butler (wife of the Regulator) to her son William Butler. Addressed to Hustonsville Post Office,² near Hunting Creek, North Carolina, and mailed from Franklin, Kentucky, 17 May 1824.

Simpson County (Ky) May 10th 1824

Dear son, son and daughter I am in good health at present Mr. Plumers family and all our family conexions are well at this time as far as we know a great many people have died here this season me and my people as yet are so many living monuments of the divine goodness and we have great reason to thank that god who is willing to be termed the preserver of men for his goodness I long to see you both & I desire very much to have a chance to talk with you both I may never have an opportunity to see you in this time world If not my earnest prayer is that we may have a happy meeting hereafter I am now well stricken in years and may say with the antient Patriarch that few and evil have been the days of the life of my pilgrimage when I left you about 19 years ago you said you would come and see me but you have not done so I think hard of it be sure to come or write as soon as possible come this fall if you can there is a great Prospect of fruit this year wheat looks well remember me to all your family and all inquireing friends.

You feell near to me altho we are distant at this time I am your Mother It appears that you forgot a tender parent If you love me with paternal affection I wish you to prove your faith by your works for faith without works is dead being alone I trust you will make amends for being remiss My dear son I am with great consideration your very affectionate Mother Phebe Butler

Two letters from Edmund Butler (mailed in the same envelope) to William Butler and Francis Young, North Carolina, Iredell County, Hustonsville post office, Postspeed. Mailed at Franklin, Kentucky, September 19, Paid 25.

Simpson County (Ky.) Franklin Sept. 13th 1825

¹"Sir" probably refers to William Butler, the Regulator's son (who did not go to Kentucky around 1800 with his mother Phebe and others of her family); he remained on his plantation in Iredell County, North Carolina. We owe a debt of gratitude to this William Butler and his son L.Q.C. Butler and descendants for the preservation of these genealogical treasures.

²H(o)ustonsville, or Houstonville, Iredell County, is about five miles north of Harmony.

Dear Brother we are all well at present I have wrote three letters to you and received no answer each letter was sent by mail one was dated the 20th of June last I have held myself in readiness to go in this fault to have aided you about the Estate but the necessary information was wanting therefore write as soon as possible I have wrote to our cousin Edward Butler living in Georgia and I received an answer from him I wish to know whether sd Butler has been in to see you or not or if he has written to you let me know it in your next letter— he lives in Morgan county Madison is the name of the county town Georgia In my last letter I wrote to you to write to my cousin in Georgia to meet me at your house to go to Hillsborough to examine concerning the Estate by the first of October I am waiting for a letter requesting me to come in otherwise it will soon be too late to go in this fault If we do not see to the Estate and that soon it will certainly be lost to us I am going next week to Nashville Tennessee to examine with respect to his claims for western lands I wrote all the particulars in my last letter I hope you received it I hope you attended strictly to its contents Before I received the letter you sent to Fanny Plumer I wrote to Hillsborough to Thos. Ruffian [*sic*] Mangram [*sic*] and Scott and Ruffian and Mangram was not at home Scott took out the letter and returned his answer to this effect that the Estate I mean the perishable part will descend to captain Christmas and that the real Estate descends to Aunts people or her nearest kin From the Import of Scotts letter together with the accurate Information concerning sd. estate I suspect that he is interested But I ask emphatically would it be right for the estate to descend as above stated to the great Injury of the Nearest kin of General Butler Whose nearest kin according to strict Justice ought to be legal Heirs

I wish to know who was your council at Hillsborough let me know in your next letter Wheat crops have been good this year corn this year is not very good Our uncle Repercillis [who is he?] is dead sister McConnell is dead also

Sir I am your affectionate friend brother William Butler
Edmund Butler

Mr. Francis Young we understand that you are Executor to the estate of Christopher Ellis I want to know how much is coming to my brother Thomases two children Cynthy and Rebekah we want to know the amount of the money there deposited for said girls, and how much property was taken by the old woman to the Allabam I want to know where the money and property is deposited we understand that the old womans dower at her decease is to descend to the above named girls if willed to them what property did she take with her State what is to be given to each legal Heir as quik as you receive these lines go to my brothers house and both write in one letter to me write with all possible speed

To William Butler & Francis Young Edmund Butler

Letter from John Scott to Edmund Butler. Mailed from Hillsboro, Sept. 15, [postage] 25, to Mr. Edmond Butler, Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky.

Hillsborough, North Carolina
Sept. 11 1824

Mr. Edmond Butler

Dear Sir

Yesterday yours of the 30th July last addressed to Messrs: Ruffin, Mangum or myself was handed to me in our Post office. I have not seen Mr. Scars [Sears?] to whom you entrusted the letter, nor has he yet given any account of the money which you forwarded by him for fees, etc. From the post mark it seems that letter was lodged in the office at Glasgow in Kentucky on the 10th of August without paying the postage and reached Hillsborough within a few days past.

On the rec^t of yours I immediately called at the clerk's Office & examined the will of Genl. Butler in & by which all the estate real and personal is secured absolutely to the widow, not for life, but in fee and forever. She afterwards intermarried with Capt. Richard Christmas of Orange (the County in which Hillsborough is situate) & died a few years ago without children or grandchildren, and without making any will. Her husband Capt. Christmas is yet living.

The effect of the Gen^{ls} will, is to give the estate to his widow's family & husband. By the marriage, all personal estate became the property of Capt. Christmas which he now holds absolutely & forever. The lands descend to the widow's next of kin who are already in the possession & use of it, I believe, inasmuch as she died without issue or having had any; so that the Capt. cannot hold longer than during his life. Had there been a child, then he might hold the lands during his life. From this view of the matter, it seems there is no hope for you or any of the General's family sharing any part of the estate now or hereafter. Such is the effect & consequence of his willing the whole of his estate absolutely and forever to the widow, as he has done. The estate cannot under any circumstances revert to the Butler family —

A few weeks ago a nephew of the General of name of Butler was here with a view of inquiring in this business. I did not see him, but was told of it yesterday while examining your uncle's will. (Messrs: Ruffin & Mangum are absent & will be for a week to come.)

Yours respectfully,
John Scott

A note is attached to this letter, which reads:
Mecklenburg, North Carolina

I have read the within letter and accord with Mr. Scott entirely indeed nothing can be more clear,
Nov 1st 1826 [signed] J. Wilson

Aaron Butler gives power of attorney to his brother Edmund Butler.

Know all men by these presents that I Aaron Butler of the State of Tennessee & County of Sumner do by these presents nominate constitute and appoint my trusty friend Edmund Butler of the County of Simpson & State of Kentucky for the following purpose towit — That whereas I am informed & believe that my Relative and Uncle General John Butler of the State of North Carolina Orange County Departed this life some years ago leaving no issue & possessed of a very considerable Estate both real and personal, of Consequence I am one of the Legal heirs of said Genl John Butler dec^d and I do by these presents nominate Constitute said Edmund Butler my Attorney in fact to ask demand receive from the Ex'rs Administrators & all others concerned all such sums of money or property Both Real and personal as I may be entitled to from my said Uncle's Estate — hereby fully Authorizing & empowering my said Attorney to ask demand and Receive from the Executors or Administrators of said Genl Jno. Butler Deceased or any other person concerned all such of money or property of sd. Genl John Butler Dc^d as I may be entitled to in any of the United States of Elsewhere — Hereby fully empowering my said Attorney in fact to employ Council institute such for the recovery of my said Legacy and to sign my name to any receipt or any other that may be necessary in the premises. Hereby fully Ratifying & confirming what my said Attorney may do as fully as if I was personally present & to have done the same myself. Witness my hand & Seal August 4, 1826

[signed] Aaron Butler

(Attached are statements of Justices of the Peace Thomas Beauchamp and H. B. Montague, 4 August 1826, attesting to the legality of the above statement.)

James Butler gives power of attorney to his brother Edmund Butler.

Know all men by these presents that I James Butler of the County of Simpson and state of Kentucky do by these presents nominate constitute and appoint my trusty friend Edmund Butler of the County and State aforesaid for the following purpose to wit that whereas I am informed and believe that my Relative and uncle General John Butler of the State of North Carolina Orange County Departed this Life some years ago leaving no issue and possessed of a very considerable Estate both Real and personal of Consequence I am one of the Legal Heirs of said Genl John Butler dec^d and I do by these presents nominate Constitute said Edmund Butler my Attorney in fact to ask demand receive from the Executors administrators & all others concerned all such Sums of money or property Both Real and personal as I may be entitled to from my said uncle's Estate, hereby fully Authorizing & empowering my said attorney to ask demand and Receive from the Executors or administrators of said General John Butler D^d or any other person concerned all such sums of money or property of said Estate of said Genl John Butler Dc^d as I may be entitled to in any of the United States of Elsewhere, hereby fully empowering my said Attorney in fact to employ Council institute such for the Recovery of my said Legacy and to sign my name to any receipt or any other that may be necessary in the premises. Hereby fully Ratifying & Confirming what my said Attorney may do as fully as if I was personally present & to have done the same myself. Witness my hand & Seal this 9th day of August 1826

[signed] James Butler

(Attached are statements of witnesses John M. Robertson and Henry B. Montague, Justices of the Peace, and Simpson County Court Clerk Jnot. [Jonathan?] Moore, 9 August 1826.)

Note (undated) from Wm. N...[or H? possibly William Norwood?], addressed to "Mr. Butler"; the note seems to have been mailed at the Williamsburg Post Office, Iredell County, North Carolina, on a Friday p.m. The "Mr. Butler" is probably L.Q.C. Butler, grandson of the Regulator and the son of William Butler who died in Iredell County on 12 March 1833. The note appears to have been attached to the notice (see below) about the death of Richard Christmas:

Mr. Butler I send your some information respecting the death of a connection in Orange—you have all the knowledge on the subject

I am yours etc.

Wm N...[or H]

Brief letter from James A. Craig to "Sir" [probably the William N... or H... who wrote the note above].

Heading: Hawfields, Orange, No. Carolina, 21 September 1833

Inside address: P.M. At Williamsburg.

Sir—Be so good as to inform the heirs of William Butler (Dec) of your neighborhood that their relative Capt. Rich^d. Christmas of this county [Orange] died on the 18th of March last [the William Butler mentioned is no doubt the son of the Regulator who had a plantation in Iredell County; as it happened, he died on 12 March 1833, just a few days before Richard Christmas died].

& oblige your friend

James A. Craig (Exc. of R. C. dcd)

Letter from James A. Craig, mailed from Hillsborough, North Carolina, on 16 March 1834; addressed to Mr. L.Q.C. Butler, Hamptonville, Surry County, North Carolina (postage 12½).
Heading: Haw River Post Office, Orange, 12th March 1834

Dear Sir:

Your favour of the 25th Dec. last post, post marked Kerner's X Roads and post dated 18th January (10¢) came to hand a few weeks ago; — Touching the information you request[?]. I have barely to state, that in the will of Captain Christmas, no devise is made Butler heirs — leaving all his estate to his own & wife's relations — However, as to the land, he made no disposal of it, considering as I understood that he set[?] of no more than a life-time interest in said land—

His wife's heirs have been since his death making efforts to get a decree from Superior Court for an order to ...smudged... This much I can say only of Genl. Butler's will that he left the land to her to dispose of as she might think proper. She died without making a will—

When your father was in some 8 or 10 years he got, if I mistake not, a copy of Butler's will. If you have not and request one, write to (paying the postage) and I will with pleasure procure and send you one — I have a copy among my papers.

Very respectfully,
James A. Craig

Letter from James A. Craig, envelope addressed to Mr. L.Q.C. Butler, Hamptonville, Surry Co. N. C., mailed from Haw River [Orange County, North Carolina], 14 July 1834.

Heading: Haw River P.O., Orange, N. C., 12 July 1834

Dear Sir

In looking over my file of letters today, I observed yours of last December intended it seemed to have been conveyed by a W. Dawthit[?], but some 6 or 8 weeks afterwards, it was mailed at Kerner's X Roads. You enquire how Captain Christmas disposed of his property. In answer I have to say his Negroes etc. he willed to the Christmas's and Armstrongs — as to the land he lived on he made no disposal of it; always considering he had but a life time in it. And that either the Armstrongs or Butlers would get it — I have had a letter from a Mr. Butler in Kentucky (an uncle of yours I think) he says he will bring suit for the land this fall and felt sanguine of success — Mr. Glass immediately after Mr. Christmas's death, took possession of the plantation and has now a fine crop upon it.

Mr. Butler (John) before his death willed property both real and personal to his wife to dispose of as she might think proper — these I believe are the bonds of the will.

I have a copy of Genl. Butler's will — should you desire it. Write me paying the postage, and I will with pleasure forward it — I believe I have answered your letter before this. If I have I have forgotten it.

Very respectfully,
James A. Craig, Exr [Executor]

Mr. Lucius Quintus Curtius Butler [Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Butler]¹
Hamptonville, N.C.

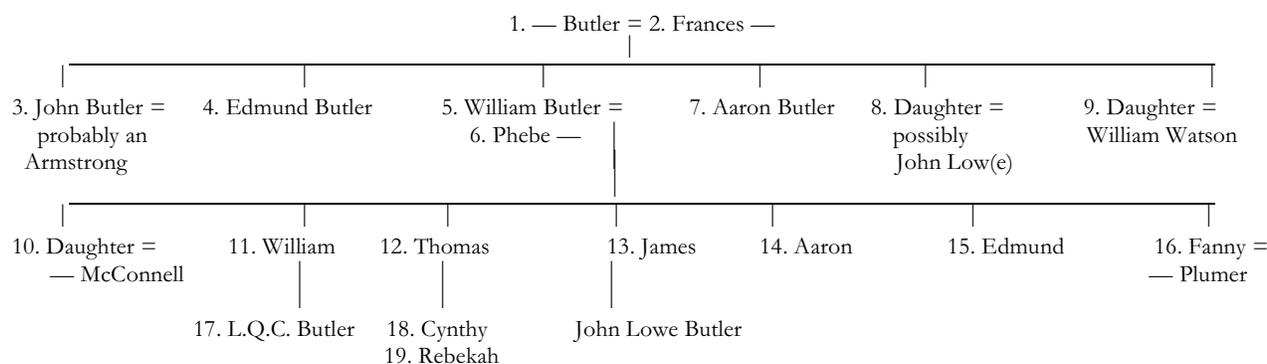
¹See Part Five: North Caroline Cousins.

It appears that you have forgot
a tender parent If you love me
with paternal affection I wish you
to prove your faith by your
works for faith without works
is dead being alone I trust you
will make amends for being remiss
My dear son I am with great
consideration your very affectionate
mother
Phebe Butler

Latter part of letter, from Simpson County, Kentucky, 10 May 1824, written by Phebe Butler (widow of the Regulator) to her son William, of Iredell County, North Carolina

Part Three Genealogical Gleanings

The data gathered from the Regulator papers and the Butler family letters (Parts One and Two) added considerable data to the family information given to us by John Lowe Butler in his *Autobiography* (see Introduction). Most importantly, we learned that John Lowe Butler's grandfather, William Butler, is the William Butler who was a leader in the pre-Revolutionary Regulator uprising in North Carolina. William's mother is Frances Butler; he has brothers John, Edmund, and Aaron; and he has at least two sisters (in her 1766 letter, Frances refers to William's "brothers and sisters"), one of whom is married to William Watson, Jr. We can chart the new information as follows:



1. The father of William Butler, Regulator, is not named in the papers. Frances Butler, William's mother, is living with his brother Aaron in Cumberland County, Virginia, in 1766.

Note: Edmund Butler of Southam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia, made his will on 27 April 1747; it was probated 17 September 1747. He named wife Frances and gave land to sons Aaron, John, Edmund, and William. He named no daughters (in 1766, his widow, Frances Butler, referred to her son William's "brothers and sisters"); they might have been very young when Edmund made his will. (Since Frances in 1766 signed herself Frances *Butler*, we can probably assume she did not marry again and have the daughters by a second husband.) John Lowe Butler, in his *Autobiography*, states that William's father came from Ireland.

2. Frances Butler is in Cumberland, Virginia, when she writes to son "Bille" (William Butler, Regulator) on 6 November 1766. She lives with William's brother Aaron and has "for some time." She mentions William's "brothers and sisters" and asks about William's "wife and children." On 30 May 1773, William Watson, in a letter mailed from Charlotte, Virginia? North Carolina?, writes to "Loving Brother" William, telling him that "Mother [Frances Butler] is weak yet."

3. John Butler is of Orange County, North Carolina. He watches closely, sometimes helpfully, over William's activities, but does not himself appear to be a Regulator. Having no children, he leaves his sizable holdings to his wife (his will is dated 27 April 1785), whose relations are named Armstrong. She was married again (1788) to Captain Richard Christmas; and she died intestate "a few years" before 1824, when Captain Christmas is living in Orange County on the plantation that was John Butler's. Captain Christmas died 18 March 1833; and from 1824 into the 1830s, the Regulator's sons contest the will of their Uncle John, with seeming little success. Note: John Butler was a prominent figure in North Carolina. There are a few hundred references to his activities found in several volumes of *Colonial and State Papers of North Carolina* (Stephen B. Weeks, *The Colonial and State Papers of North Carolina*, Vol. 27, Index A-E, pp. 250–252). John Butler was active in North Carolina Assembly and Court proceedings; and he was a Brigadier General in the North Carolina Militia during the Revolutionary War.

4. Edmund Butler, brother of Regulator William Butler, is mentioned in a letter mailed from Charlotte, Virginia? North Carolina?, on 30 May 1773; the letter was written to the Regulator by his brother-in-law William Watson, Jr. William Watson's mention of "brother" Edmund suggests that Edmund might have been living nearby in 1773 (in or near Charlotte) or was otherwise keeping in close touch.

Note: Edmund Butler married Mary (Polly) Street and at some point moved to Georgia; he made his will in Hancock County, Georgia, on 27 April 1801.

5. William Butler is called "Bille" by "Loving Mother" Frances Butler in her 1766 letter; she asks about William's "wife and family." Numerous documents relate to William Butler, Regulator, and his activities. Briefly: William Butler is in Orange County in 1767; he is at Sandy Creek when he is captured, 2 May 1768; he is directed to collect taxes on the north side of Haw River, February 1770; he takes oath to office of Sheriff of Orange County, 19 February 1770; he and other Regulators break up Superior Court at Hillsborough, 24 September 1770, and he is outlawed (wanted dead or alive with reward of £100 and 1,000 acres of land); he plans to meet with Hermon Husband at Redfield Ford, February 1770; he undoubtedly fought in the Battle of Alamance, 16 May 1771; he is in Fincastle County, Waker's Creek (head), Virginia, in May 1773; he received a certificate of Military Service in the Revolutionary War, 21 December 1781.

Note: According to an affidavit by his wife Phebe, William Butler died in Edgefield County, South Carolina, on 9 November 1790. Two children of William and Phebe Butler named by John Lowe Butler in his Autobiography were not named in the Butler papers and therefore not shown in the chart above: John Butler (John Lowe Butler was baptized for this uncle in 1841) and Samuel Butler.

6. Phebe (Childres/Childress) Butler is the wife of William Butler, Regulator. On 10 May 1824, she writes a letter (from Simpson County Kentucky) to her son William in Iredell County, North Carolina, stating that she is living with the Plumer family (her daughter and son-in-law). She says she is "well stricken in years" and mentions having left North Carolina about 19 years ago (about 1805).

Note: In 1800, Phebe and her children were in Iredell County, North Carolina (census); but by 1802, Phebe and children James, Aaron, Samuel, Edmund, Fanny, and Elizabeth were in Kentucky.

7. Aaron Butler, William's brother, is living in Cumberland, Virginia, in 1766, and his mother Frances lives with his family (her 6 November 1766 letter). One of Aaron's sons had died in April 1766. Aaron is mentioned again in 1773 when William Watson, Jr., writes to "Loving Brother" William Butler. The letter was mailed from Charlotte, Virginia? North Carolina?, and appears to suggest that Aaron and his family are in the vicinity or are otherwise in close touch.

Note: Aaron Butler made his will ten years later, 13 October 1776, on his plantation in Cumberland County, Virginia. It does not seem likely that he ever lived in North Carolina.

8. Regulator William Butler had at least two sisters (cf. Frances's letter, 1766). One sister was married to William Watson, Jr., who terms William Butler his "Loving Brother" and refers to "Brothers" Aaron and Edmund Butler (letter, 1773, mailed from Charlotte, Virginia? North Carolina?).

Note: The will of a William Watson of Orange County, North Carolina, dated 15 December 1785 (which names wife Ellenor), might be that of the above William Watson, Jr., but there were also contemporary William Watsons living in Virginia.

9. A second sister of William Butler (cf. Frances's letter, 1766) may have been Ann or Nancy Butler, who married John Lowe (cf. Lowe genealogy). In the Regulator papers, there are numerous references to a John Low(e) who is closely associated with William Butler and Regulator activities; he is also named in family letters. It seems plausible that he is the John Lowe who married Ann or Nancy Butler and that she is the Regulator's sister.

10. Elizabeth, the Regulator's daughter, is the "Sister McConnell" (McKonnel in the *Autobiography*) who had recently died (letter, September 1825, written by her brother Edmund Butler). Elizabeth went to Kentucky with her mother and several brothers soon after 1800.

11. William Butler, son of the Regulator, is in Iredell County, near Hunting Creek, North Carolina (Houstonville or Houstonville Post Office) in May 1824 and September 1825 (letters relating to the estate of General John Butler). He died on 12 March 1833 on his plantation near Houstonville in Iredell County, North Carolina (see Part Five: North Carolina Cousins).

Note: This William, by his second wife, Elizabeth Bean, had at least twelve children, the oldest of whom was Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler. It was this William and his posterity who preserved the chest that held the Regulator and Butler family papers that were donated to the Chapel Hill Library in 1967.

12. Thomas Butler, son of Regulator William Butler, is named in a letter, written 13 September 1825, by Thomas's brother Edmund, from Simpson County, Kentucky. Thomas has two daughters named Cynthy and Rebekah who are supposed to inherit from the estate of Christopher Ellis, probably their grandfather; the executor of the estate is Francis Young of Iredell County, North Carolina. The dower of "the old woman," who is said to have gone to "the Allabam," is to descend to the two girls (she appears to be their grandmother).

13. James Butler, son of the Regulator (and father of John Lowe Butler), on 9 August 1826, names brother Edmund his attorney for the purpose of looking into the disposition of the estate of General John Butler. James is of Simpson County, Kentucky.

14. Aaron Butler, son of the Regulator, on 4 August 1826, names brother Edmund Butler his attorney for the purpose of looking into the disposition of the estate of General John Butler. Aaron is of Sumner County, Tennessee.

15. Edmund Butler, son of the Regulator, is of Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky, when he receives letter dated 11 September 1824, which details the disposition of the estate of General John Butler. The letter is a response to one that Edmund had written in July 1824 to John Scott, a lawyer in the firm of Ruffin, Mangum, and Scott of Hillsborough, North Carolina.

On 13 September 1825, Edmund Butler, of Simpson County, Kentucky, writes two letters: one to his brother William in Iredell County, North Carolina; and the other to Francis Young, also of Iredell County, North Carolina. (Francis Young is executor of the estate of Christopher Ellis, and Edmund inquires about an inheritance for Cynthy and Rebekah, daughters of Edmund's brother Thomas Butler of Franklin County, Kentucky.)

In August 1826, Edmund Butler, of Simpson County, Kentucky, is given power of attorney by two of his brothers: James Butler, of Simpson County, Kentucky, and Aaron Butler, of Sumner County, Tennessee.

16. Fanny Plumer, daughter of the Regulator, is living in Simpson County, Kentucky, on 10 May 1824 (see her mother's letter to son William of Iredell County, North Carolina). Fanny is also named in a letter written on 13 September 1825 by her brother Edmund Butler to their brother, the same William Butler of Iredell County, North Carolina.

17. L.Q.C. (Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus) Butler, is grandson of Regulator William Butler, through the latter's son William Butler. This latter William settled on a plantation in Iredell County, North Carolina, and died there in 1833. L.Q.C. Butler continued inquiries begun by his father into the estate of General John Butler. On 16 March 1834 and 12 July 1834, L.Q.C. is in Hamptonville, Surry County, North Carolina. In 1844, when he copied papers in his possession for Dr. Kingsbury (the papers that were given

to the Chapel Hill Library in 1967), he was of Davie County, North Carolina.

18. Cynthy Butler, daughter of Thomas Butler, is named in a letter written on 13 September 1825 by her uncle, Edmund Butler of Simpson County, Kentucky. She is supposed to inherit from Christopher Ellis of North Carolina, probably her grandfather.

19. Rebekah Butler, daughter of Thomas Butler, is named in a letter written on 13 September 1825 by her uncle, Edmund Butler of Simpson County, Kentucky. She is supposed to inherit from Christopher Ellis of North Carolina, probably her grandfather.

Several other bits of information are also of value:

- A cousin to the sons of the Regulator (William, Thomas, James, Aaron, Edmund) is Edward Butler, living in Madison, Morgan County, Georgia, in September 1825.
- Another cousin, James —— (Butler? Lowe?) is mentioned in a letter from John Butler to his brother William Butler in August 1775. This cousin had apparently sent William some money.
- General John Butler appears to have held “western lands”; in September 1825, Edmund Butler mentions planning to go to Nashville, Tennessee, to examine his uncle’s claims to western lands.
- Who is “Uncle Repcillis,” mentioned as having died, by Edmund Butler in a letter from Simpson County, Kentucky, dated 13 September 1825? The letter is written to brother William in Iredell County, North Carolina.



Part Four The Reverend Mr. Pattillo

In a letter to her son, the Regulator leader William Butler, Frances Butler writes: “I yesterday heard Mr Pattillo preach a Funeral Sermon for Aaron’s child who died last Spring in April, was for Aaron’s good for he took a deal of pains to show us the need we all were in to prepare for the same, and how bad it will be with us if we neglect it.” This letter was dated 6 November 1766 in Cumberland [Virginia], and sent to William “pr. Favour the Rev Mr. Pattillo.”

Henry Pattillo was a Presbyterian Minister, and the following information about him is taken from scattered references in *Colonial Records of North Carolina*, Volume 5.¹

“The Presbyterian race, from the north of Ireland, is not found in Virginia and North Carolina till after the year 1730, except in scattered families, or in some small neighborhoods on the Chesapeake. About the year 1736, Henry McCulloch persuaded a colony from Ulster, Ireland, to occupy his expected grant in Duplin County, North Carolina....The loss of the early records of Orange Presbytery has left us without the means of ascertaining the precise year the Presbyterian colonies in Granville, Orange, Rowan, Mecklenburg, and, in fact, in all that beautiful section extending from the Dan to the Catawba, began to occupy the wild and fertile prairies. But it is well known, that, previously to the year 1750, settlements of some strength were scattered along from the Virginia line to Georgia....As early as 1740, there were scattered families on the Hico, and Eno, and Haw — and cabins were built along the Catawba....

“Cumberland [Virginia], 12 July 1758. ‘Rev. Henry Pattillo and Wm. Richardson have been set apart to the work of the holy ministry, by fasting, prayer, and imposition of hands’...a certificate was ordered....

“Hanover [Virginia], Sept. 27th, 1758. Mr. Pattillo accepted a call from Willis, Bird and Buck Island. With these congregations he remained about four years. At a meeting of Presbytery, Providence, Oct. 7, 1762, he was dismissed from this charge, the people ‘being unable to give him sufficient support.’ In 1763, May 4th, at Tinkling Spring, he agreed to supply Cumberland, Harris Creek, and Deep Creek [Virginia]. With these congregations he continued about two years. At a meeting of Presbytery, Hico, 2d October, 1765, a call for his services was presented from Hawfields, Eno, and Little River. This call he accepted, and removed to the State of North Carolina, and there served the church about thirty-five years in Orange and Granville Counties....² In Granville and in Orange, along the Eno, the eloquent Pattillo taught impressively the wonder-working truths of the gospel of Christ....Mr. Pattillo held a classical school in Granville....

In Guilford County, “settlements had been formed on the Alamance, and in 1764, the year of his visit [a visit from Virginia to North Carolina, previous to his move there in 1765], the Rev. Henry Pattillo, who was afterwards the minister of Hawfields and Little River, organized a church called Alamance, whose preaching-place is about seven miles from Greensborough and about the same distance from Buffalo....

¹William L. Saunders, Secretary of State, collector and editor, *Colonial Records of North Carolina*, Vol. 5 (Raleigh, North Carolina: Printer for the State, 1887), pp. 1193–1219. Saunders indicates that the information on the early Presbyterian settlements in this volume was condensed from William Henry Foote, *Sketches of North Carolina: Historical and Biographical* (Philadelphia: W. S. Martin, 1849).

²Note that in Frances Butler’s November 1766 letter, Aaron’s child had died in April, but the Reverend Pattillo did not hold a funeral service there until November. In 1765, he had left his Virginia congregations to labor in Orange and Granville Counties, North Carolina. He obviously returned to Virginia, for a visit at least, and conducted this November 1766 funeral service in Cumberland.

“At a meeting of Presbytery, Buffalo, Rowan County, N. C., March 8th, 1770, Messrs. David Caldwell, Hugh M’Aden, Joseph Alexander and Henry Pattillo, and Hezekiah Balch and James Criswell, united in a petition to Synod to be set off as a Presbytery by the name of Orange — ‘where two of our ministers reside,’ is given as the reason for the name. This year the counties of Guilford, Wake, Chatham and Surrey were set off to counteract the influence of the Regulators....

“Mr. Pattillo continued with the congregation of Hawfields, Eno and Little River till the year 1774, when he removed....In the year 1775 he was selected for one of the delegates for the county of Bute (now Warren and Franklin) to attend the first Provincial Congress of North Carolina. Its sessions commenced August 20th at Hillsborough....The last resolution on the first day was ‘that the Rev. Henry Pattillo be requested to read prayers to the Congress every morning’....

“The first elders of Eno were Thomas Clark, John Tinnier and Carus Tinnier. The names of the first elders of Hawfields have not been preserved. Mr. Pattillo was the first settled minister of these two congregations, which have been the mothers of those now surrounding them, Little River, New Hope, Fairfield, and Cross Roads. He came in 1765 and left them in 1774....

“It will be born in mind that Mr. Pattillo lived in the midst of the Regulators; that some of their largest assemblages were in the bounds of his field of labor. And while there was more ignorance than he wished to see among his charges, could they be ignorant, uninformed people....

“Tryon’s march the day before the Regulation Battle [Battle of Alamance, 16 May 1771] was through these congregations; and the heavy oath of allegiance was exacted as the price of their property and lives after the governor’s victory. Upon the conscientious part of the community, that oath sat with a galling weight; although many felt themselves relieved by the fact that the king could neither enforce his laws nor defend his subjects; yet some suffered under its influence during the whole war [Revolutionary War] — not daring to take arms for their country, and not disposed to enlist among her enemies. Such people often suffered the ill-deserved odium of being Tories, and felt the ill-effects of a bad name. Few Tories were found among the Presbyterian population of Orange. The most vehement enemies that Cornwallis met had been under the instruction of Presbyterian ministers. The first settled minister [Reverend Pattillo] of Hawfields and Hico sat in the first Provincial Congress of Carolina, and on alarms, met with his people, to encourage them by precept and example, to defend their country and their religion....In the future history of Carolina, the war of the Regulation will stand prominent as the struggle of liberty and justice against oppression, not less honored for the immediate effects....

“In the year 1780, Mr. Pattillo became the pastor of Nutbush and Grassy Creek in Granville County and gave to them his last labors, ripened by age and experience. These two congregations were composed at first of emigrants from Hanover, New Kent, and King and Queen, in Virginia, converts under the preaching of Rev. Samuel Davies and his coadjutors....”



Part Five North Carolina Cousins

The following information about North Carolina Butlers was sent to Beryl Putnam Duffin by Beatrice Butler Ferguson of Gastonia, North Carolina, in letters, 1971 and 1972. Beatrice is a granddaughter of the Regulator's son William Butler, who did not go to Kentucky with his mother Phebe and others of his siblings (between 1800 and 1802). He remained in Iredell County, North Carolina, and passed a chest of valuable Regulator and Butler family documents on to his descendants. In the 1970s, documents in this collection, from which some had been copied and given to the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill in 1967, were in the possession of John Henry Butler of Winchester, Kentucky, a grandson of William Butler of Iredell County and Beatrice's cousin.

1. William Butler, Regulator, born about 1730; died 1790.

The Regulator's hiding place during the period when he had a price on his head was in Iredell County near Beatrice's place of birth. According to family tradition, he was buried in a grove on the Santee River in South Carolina.¹ Papers in possession of John Henry Butler show that William Butler was granted land in District Ninety-Six (the counties of Edgefield, Laurens, Newberry, Spartanburg, and Union were formed from this District, the first four in 1785 and the last in 1798); unfortunately no date is attached to this grant information: 311 ac[res] on the head of Foxe's Creek, the waters of Savannah River; and 202 ac[res] on the Ridge between the head of Foxe's Creek and the road from the Lower Cherokee Pond.²



2. William Butler, the Regulator's second son and third child of nine.

He was born 2 October 1770 and died 12 March 1833. He married (1) 11 February 1799, Anna Gooden, who died October 1799; he married (2) 3 May 1804, Elizabeth Bean, and settled on a plantation near Houstonville (or Hustonville), Iredell County, North Carolina. After William's death in 1833, Elizabeth and most of her children went to Missouri, where Elizabeth died on 5 March 1838. The children moved west and settled in Oregon and Washington. Only the eldest son, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler, remained in North Carolina. Children of William and Elizabeth (Bean) Butler:³

3. i. Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler.
- ii. Thomas Bean Butler, born 11 September 1808; died 8 April 1820.
- iii. Rachel Paulina Butler, born 27 March 1810; married 3 February 1831 in Pettis, Missouri, Enos Beamon.
- iv. Fabias Melton Butler, born 15 March 1812; married 2 October 1842, Lucy A. Pleasants; died Pettis County, Missouri. He was a school teacher.
- v. William E. Chauncey Butler, born 5 December 1813.
- vi. Junius Jackson Butler, born 13 October 1815; listed in Cass County, Missouri, in 1850 Census; also listed in Yamhill County, Oregon, 1850 Census (farmer).

¹William Butler, Regulator, died in Edgefield County, 9 November 1790, according to an affidavit sworn by his widow, Phebe, on 16 April 1826. John Henry Butler had this document in his possession in 1972.

²Letter from John Henry Butler, Winchester, Kentucky, dated 27 February 1972, to cousin Beatrice Butler Ferguson, of Gastonia, North Carolina.

³Pettis, Missouri, marriages, in letter, 9 March 1972, from Leah Skousen O'Donnal, Mesa, Arizona, to Beryl Putnam Duffin.

- vii. Polly B. Butler, born 16 September 1817.
 - viii. Benjamin D. Butler, born 31 Mar 1819; married 21 July 1852 in Yamhill County, Oregon, Elvira Josephine _____. Benjamin was in Cass County, Missouri, 1850 Census.
 - ix. Elizabeth L.C.T. Butler, born 5 April 1821; married 2 March 1838 in Pettis, Missouri, Robert Fowler.
 - x. (Dr.) Phebe E.C. Butler, born 12 July 1823; married 1 March 1838 in Pettis, Missouri, Thomas Embree.
- (Note: William is said to have had at least twelve children.)

3. Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus (L.Q.C.) Butler.¹

L.Q.C. Butler was born 31 October 1806 and died 19 November 1886 (buried in the old Butler Cemetery on his plantation at Eagle Mills Township near Houstonville in Iredell County). He married (1) 22 November 1837, Elizabeth Adaline Whitlock in Surry County, North Carolina; she died 28 June 1843. He married (2) 23 November 1845, Amelia Elmira Prather in Davie County, North Carolina; she died 7 February 1886.

Children by first wife:

- i. Quintilla Paulina, born 1837, married 21 April 1858, Thomas D. Keller.
- ii. Elizabeth D. Butler, born 1838; died 1843.
- iii. Mary Inis Butler, born 1840. Either this daughter or another daughter, name not known, married DeWitt Clinton Wilson.²
- iv. Infant, born 1841.
- v. Sarah A. Butler, born 1842.

Children by second wife:

- vi. William Lucius Butler, born 11 September 1848; died 30 April 1910; married (1) 3 February 1876, Alice Beatrice Stone; (2) 1 October 1896, Lizzie May Talbot. William Lucius attended the University of Kentucky and was a Church of Christ Minister. William was administrator of his brother James Augustus's estate. He had the following children:
 - Anna Butler Tyster, a capable portrait painter, of Hemet, California, in 1972.
 - Margaret Butler Ratcliff, of Scotts Mills, Oregon, age 90 in 1972.
 - L.Q.C. Butler, of Vivian, Louisiana, age 83 in 1972.
 - Mrs. J. F. Cochran, of Vivian, Louisiana, age 86 in 1972.
- vii. Thomas J. Butler, born 1851; died young.
- 4. viii. John Alexander Butler.
- 5. ix. James Augustus Butler.

4. John Alexander Butler.

John Alexander Butler was born 28 September 1853 in Davie County; married at age 33. He attended the University of Kentucky and set up a grain mill business. He died, age 51, in 1904, leaving eight children, ages two through fifteen. Five of these eight children are listed below:

- i. James A. Butler.
- ii. Amelia Butler (Dr. Amelia Butler Kennedy); married R. H. Kennedy, a descendant of

¹According to McCubbin's *North Carolina Collections*, Part 15, "Butlers of North Carolina," L.Q.C. Butler sometimes signed his name: Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Adam Cornfield Bean Butler (the last three given names perhaps facetiously, although his mother's maiden name was Bean). He generally wore a long-tailed coat and a red bandana around his neck, and his gig was pulled by an ox. He was a Latin scholar, schoolmaster, and postmaster.

²See p. 2, mention of Wilson cousins by Beatrice Butler Ferguson.

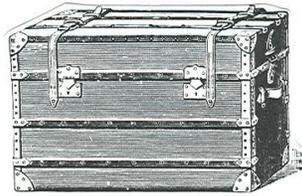
James Hunter, a Regulator leader. The Kennedys lived for many years on the plantation in Iredell County near the hiding place of Regulator William Butler. The grandmother of R. H. Kennedy said that William Butler got his food from a small grain mill either on or near the plantation. Dr. Amelia Kennedy was living in Harmony, North Carolina, in 1972.

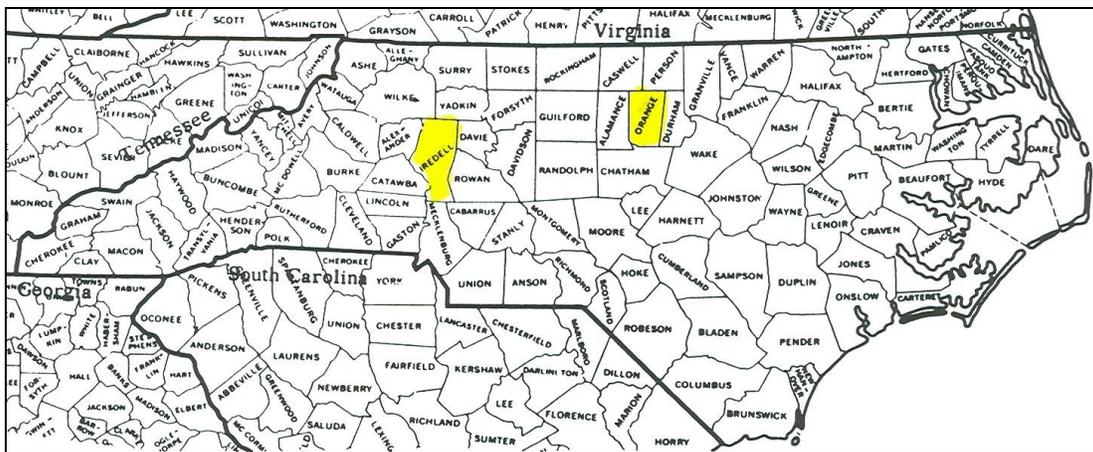
- iii. Beatrice Butler; married Richard Ferguson. In 1972, Beatrice had been a widow for 28 years. She had one daughter who was age 4 at the death of her father.
- iv. John Butler; age 76 in 1972, living in Coral Gables, Florida.
- v. Younger son, who died of cancer, 4 August 1972.

5. James Augustus Butler.

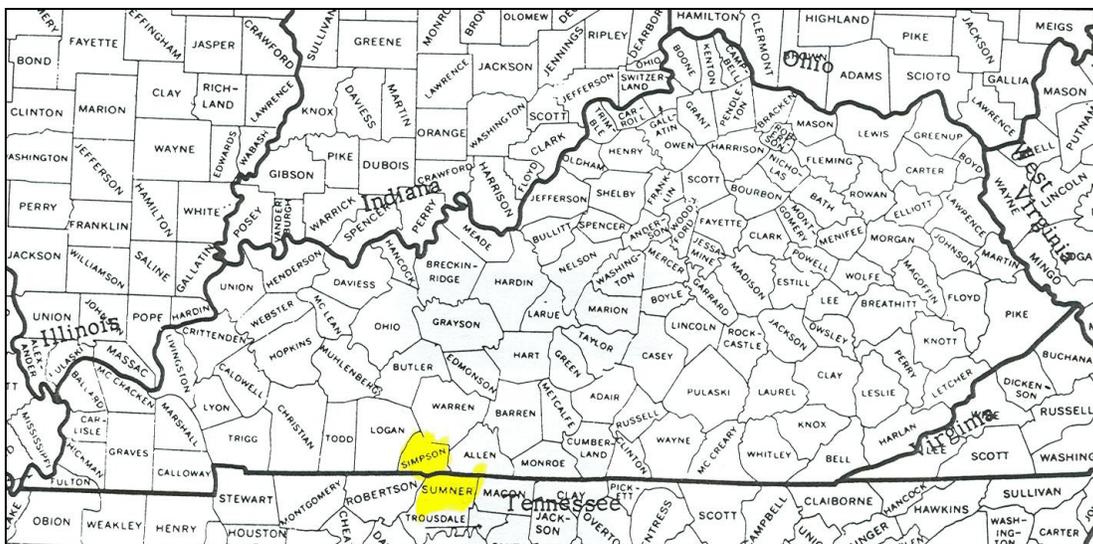
James August Butler died in 1908, leaving four children:

- i. James Butler, living in Whittier, California, in 1972.
- ii. William Butler, of Fremont, New Hampshire; donated Butler family papers to the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill in 1967.
- iii. John Henry Butler, a retired teacher; was of Winchester, Kentucky, in 1972. At that time, he had in his possession the Regulator and Butler family documents that had survived.
- iv. Mary Hunt Butler, living in Fort Myers, Florida, in 1971.





County map of North Carolina (Orange County and Iredell County highlighted)
 George B. Everton, Sr., editor, *The Handy Book for Genealogists*, 7th
 edition (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc.), p. 213.



County map of Kentucky (note position of Simpson County, Kentucky, and Sumner County, Tennessee)
 George B. Everton, Sr., editor, *The Handy Book for Genealogists*, 7th
 edition (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc.), p. 114.

Part Six Additional Letters

The following transcriptions of old documents appeared on the internet.¹ The first is a curious note, 1805, signed by Edmund Butler and James Butler, of Simpson County, Kentucky, sons of William Butler, Regulator, regarding some kind of agreement with their brother, William Butler in Iredell County, North Carolina. The second document is a portion of a letter, 1822, to Uncle William, the same William Butler in Iredell County, North Carolina, from James Butler's oldest son, William Lowe Butler. The third is a letter, 1831, to William Butler in Iredell County, North Carolina, from his brother James Butler, telling of their mother's death in Simpson County, Kentucky, and giving remarkable detail of her last days. The letter also provides us the death date of James Butler's daughter Sarah, information we had not previously found; James also mentions the four infant children he had buried. The transcriptions are given here as they appeared on the internet; unfortunately we do not have the original documents at hand to check accuracy of transcription.

25 October 1805

To: William Butler, Iredell County, North Carolina

From: Edmond Butler and James Butler

Know all men by these presents that we the Assigners Edmond Butler and James Butler doth bind our selves our heirs and Assigns unto William Butler his heirs and Assignors in the full and just sum of five Hundred Dollars to be paid unto him the said William Butler if that the said Pheeby Butler should Ever interrupt him the said William Butler son: Dicest (?) the land containing four hundred acres be the same more or less as Witnesseth our hands and seals this 25th day of October 1805.²

Signed in the Presents of

F.(?) Campbell Edmond Butler Seal

His

L [written L] Jas. Butler Seal

Soloman (S) His mark

Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky

30 December 1822

Dear Uncle, [*William Butler, son of William Butler, Regulator*]

After presenting you with my best respects I can inform you that I and all my father's family is enjoying the like blessing. (Part of this letter has been cut out.) ... is by the request of Grandmother Butler [*Phebe Childress Butler, widow of the Regulator*] that I do write these few lines to you Grandmother Butler is as well as could be expected a woman of her age Grandfather Lowe still preaches yet. There are a great many deaths in this neighborhood but none of the connections lately. I am living in Franklin and is going to school. I want ... his uncle to write to each other once every three months for I want to hear from you that often. Anyhow I'll

¹Descendants of John Lowe <http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/b/u/t/Pamela-Butler/GENE2-0006.html> (06/07/98).

²In the 1800 Census of Rowan County, North Carolina, Phebe Butler (mother of James, Edmund, and William Butler named here) was still in North Carolina with her sons James, Edmund, and others of her children (William was not with the family in this census; he had married in 1799); but by 1802, James Butler was in Kentucky serving as a Justice of the Peace. His mother Phebe Butler was probably with him, as well as the other children who went to Kentucky with her soon after 1800. This agreement may refer to land that had previously belonged to Phebe Butler, widow of the Regulator, now in the possession of William Butler, her son who had remained in North Carolina (Iredell County was created from Rowan County in 1788). Perhaps there was some concern that Phebe, at some point, may decide to take her land back.

write to you as often as you write to me. Direct your letters to Simpson County, Kentucky. This is from your loving nephew William L. Butler [*William Lowe Butler, son of James Butler and Charity Lowe*]

Written to Mr. William Butler, Iredell County, North Carolina post office

State of Kentucky, Simpson County [1831, *date not given here*]

Dear ...

...up my pen to write to you informing you that our aged mother [*Phebe Childres Butler*] ..., world and gone to a world of peace. I now give you a true account of her sickness. She was taken poorly on Monday evening, January 19 [1831] and complained she had a bad cold and sat by the fire a Knitting and drank coffee. On Tuesday complained of a bad headache, still contained poorly. A Wednesday and a Thursday she got some better and sat up and knit a little but in the evening she got worse. Friday, Saturday and Sunday she still kept poorly but very often sat up and drank some coffee for her constant drink. Monday about one o'clock in the afternoon while lying in bed she hollered for one of the children to bring her a ball of thread and (?) one to wind it on it. ... she began to wind the ball of ... to get winding the ball but she did her best of my remembrance had not worked much late!

She wished to keep her things in order however. Sister Fanny Plummer came to see her and she started winding the ball. She then got up ... and sat up late til bedtime but we ... was not in her senses though she knew us all and made motion with her hands as though she was knitting. At last she said it was too dark to knit and began to make motions with her hands to pick cotton. Sister Fanny put some cotton in her hands and she picked out two or three seeds. Sister Fanny lay with her that night and rested tolerably well though lightheaded. On Tuesday morning she appeared better and in her senses and drank some coffee and ate some milk and bread. About twelve o'clock Sister Fanny went home. After sundown mother got very restless sometimes in the bed and ... would be up appearing in great misery, would catch at the bedclothes and discover death was near. I sent for a neighbor. About one hour the night she appeared easy and ... still. I told her to put her trust in the Lord. She said her trust was in the Lord and no one else. She appeared to be easy [*sic*]. Her breath got shorter and shorter and about two o'clock and thirty minutes after midnight she dyed without a struggle and eyes completely closed which was on a Wednesday the 26th of January, 1831. She was decently buried about sundown on the same day she died. At William Loew's [*sic*] burying ground where I have four infant children buried also. Robert Guilfano and his wife is buried on same ground. Thus our mother had left us. Her age according to the best information was about eighty-four years old. She walked nearly half-bent with a cane she was very childish but no trouble to ... little and no expense. (She would always work in the winter not at night) Pick cotton ... in summer sat on the bed and spin work she would (she had plenty of folks) lived comfortable her last days. The best of all she wanted was plenty to eat and that she got ... home was of Sister Plummers. She had been at my house for some time. I brought her to my house four weeks before Christmas. She agreed to stay with me til spring. My brother we must all try to believe her soul is at rest.

Had a lovely daughter die the 6th of January. She was married to a man with the name of Dickson Allen.¹ She has three children. She died singing, giving praises God his name. Her name was Salley. She was my third child. Her children are living with ... The family connection is well. We have had awfully hard winter. Corn is scarce at times. Brother Edmund and my dear self desires you would write to us fill up one sheet to us both. Mother's funeral is to be preached the last Sunday in May by a Baptist Methodist preacher. I subscribe myself your brother James Butler. Mother had two beds and some ... canes and abundance of clothes, dresses, and a good many other articles. We [*gave*] all to sister Plummer as she had the ... care of her.

Written to William Butler, Iredell County, North Carolina, Houstonville post office

By James Butler, living in Kentucky [*at Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County*]

¹The internet source transcribed this name as *Dictrone* Allen.

James Butler Family, p. 1

Family Group Record

Page 1 of 2

| Husband | | James Butler | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Born | 1774 | Place | Of Orange County, North Carolina | Baptized | Nov 1841 NAUVO |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 6 Nov 1879 |
| Died | Betw 1831-41 | Place | Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | SealSp | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Married | 1 Mar 1802 | Place | Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky | | |
| Husband's father | William Butler (Regulator leader) | | | | |
| Husband's mother | Phebe Childres (Childress) | | | | |
| Wife | | Charity Lowe | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
| Born | 13 Jan 1782 | Place | Surry County, North Carolina | Baptized | Mar 1835 |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 5 Jan 1846 NAUVO |
| Died | 25 Apr 1851 age 69 | Place | North Pigeon Settlement, Pottawattamie County, Iowa | SealPar | 11 Oct 1950 ALBER |
| Buried | | Place | En Route To Salt Lake Valley | | |
| Wife's father | William Lowe (Revolutionary War) | | | | |
| Wife's mother | Margaret Fehr (Fair, Farr) | | | | |
| Children | | List each child in order of birth. | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
| 1 | M | William Lowe Butler (lawyer) | | | |
| Born | Abt 1802 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Nov 1841 NAUVO |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 1 Feb 1952 SLAKE |
| Died | Betw 1839-1841 | Place | Possibly Carrollton, Carroll County, Missouri | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Spouse | Beulah Peden | | | | |
| Married | Abt 1825 | Place | Of Carrollton, Carroll County, Missouri | SealSp | 7 Mar 1968 ARIZO |
| 2 | F | Elizabeth Butler | | | |
| Born | Abt 1804 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 1 Feb 1952 SLAKE |
| Died | | Place | | SealPar | 29 Sep 1952 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Spouse | Sandy Mays | | | | |
| Married | Abt 1825 | Place | Of Simpson County, Kentucky | SealSp | 8 May 1996 SGEOR |
| 3 | F | Sarah (Salley) Butler | | | |
| Born | Abt 1806 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 11 Feb 1952 SLAKE |
| Died | 6 Jan 1831 | Place | Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Spouse | Dickson Allen | | | | |
| Married | Abt 1827 | Place | Of Simpson County, Kentucky | SealSp | 22 Jul 1994 IRIVE |
| 4 | M | John Lowe Butler | | | |
| Born | 8 Apr 1808 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | 9 Mar 1835 |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 15 Dec 1845 NAUVO |
| Died | 10 Apr 1860 | Place | Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | Spanish Fork Cemetery, Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | | |
| Spouse | Caroline Farozine Skeen | | | | |
| Married | 3 Feb 1831 | Place | Sumner County, Tennessee | SealSp | 23 Sep 1843 |
| 5 | M | Thomas Butler | | | |
| Born | Abt 1810 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | 18 Jan 1952 SLAKE |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 5 Feb 1952 SLAKE |
| Died | | Place | | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Spouse | | | | | |
| Married | | Place | | SealSp | |
| 6 | M | Vincent Butler (lawyer) | | | |
| Born | 1812 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Nov 1841 NAUVO |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 6 Feb 1952 SLAKE |
| Died | Betw 1839-1841 | Place | Possibly Carrollton, Carroll County, Missouri | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Spouse | Mrs. Vincent Butler | | | | |
| Married | Abt 1838 | Place | Of Carrollton, Carroll County, Missouri | SealSp | |
| 7 | F | Lucy Ann Butler | | | |
| Born | 6 Dec 1814 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Mar 1835 |
| Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 20 Dec 1845 NAUVO |
| Died | 16 Dec 1884 | Place | Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE |
| Buried | | Place | | | |
| Prepared by | Beryl Putnam Duffin | | Address | 2300 Anza Avenue | |
| Phone | | | | Davis, California 95616 | |
| E-mail address | | | | | |
| Date prepared | 11 Aug 2007 | | | | |

James Butler Family, p. 2

| Family Group Record | | | | | | Page 2 of 2 | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|--|---------------------|-------------------|--|
| Husband | | James Butler | | | | | |
| Wife | | Charity Lowe | | | | | |
| Children List each child in order of birth. | | | | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | |
| 7 | F | Lucy Ann Butler | | | | | |
| | Spouse | Reuben Warren Allred | | | | | |
| | Married | 4 Dec 1836 | Place | Mirabile, Caldwell County, Missouri | SealSp | 16 Jan 1846 NAUVO | |
| 8 | Child Butler | | | | | | |
| | Born | Abt 1816 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Child | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | Child | |
| | Died | At Birth | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 25 May 1995 LANGE | |
| | Buried | | Place | Lowe's Burying Ground, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | | | |
| | Spouse | | | | | | |
| | Married | | Place | | SealSp | | |
| 9 | Child Butler | | | | | | |
| | Born | Abt 1818 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Child | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | Child | |
| | Died | At Birth | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 25 May 1995 LANGE | |
| | Buried | | Place | Lowe's Burying Ground, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | | | |
| | Spouse | | | | | | |
| | Married | | Place | | SealSp | | |
| 10 | Child Butler | | | | | | |
| | Born | Abt 1820 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Child | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | Child | |
| | Died | At Birth | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 2 Jun 1994 JRIVE | |
| | Buried | | Place | Lowe's Burying Ground, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | | | |
| | Spouse | | | | | | |
| | Married | | Place | | SealSp | | |
| 11 | Child Butler | | | | | | |
| | Born | Abt 1821 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Child | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | Child | |
| | Died | At Birth | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar | 2 Jun 1994 JRIVE | |
| | Buried | | Place | Lowe's Burying Ground, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | | | |
| | Spouse | | | | | | |
| | Married | | Place | | SealSp | | |
| 12 | M | Edmund Ray Butler | | | | | |
| | Born | 28 Apr 1822 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Mar 1835 | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 19 Jan 1846 NAUVO | |
| | Died | Spring 1849 | Place | Kanesville (Council Bluffs), Pottawattamie County, Iowa | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | Buried | | Place | Kanesville (Council Bluffs), Pottawattamie County, Iowa | | | |
| | Spouse | Lydia Meacham Thornton | | | | | |
| | Married | 19 Jan 1846 | Place | Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois | SealSp | 19 Jan 1846 NAUVO | |
| 13 | M | James Morgan Butler (attorney) | | | | | |
| | Born | 20 Apr 1824 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Mar 1835 | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 21 Jan 1846 NAUVO | |
| | Died | | Place | Near Arion, Crawford County, Iowa | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | Buried | | Place | | | | |
| | Spouse | Catherine McCole | | | | | |
| | Married | Abt 1847 | Place | Of Dow City, Crawford County, Iowa | SealSp | 8 May 1996 SGEOR | |
| 14 | M | Lorenzo Dow Butler | | | | | |
| | Born | 13 Jul 1826 | Place | At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized | Mar 1835 | |
| | Chr. | | Place | | Endowed | 21 Jan 1846 NAUVO | |
| | Died | 2 Aug 1884 | Place | Woodbine, Harrison County, Iowa | SealPar | 29 Sep 1953 SLAKE | |
| | Buried | | Place | | | | |
| | Spouse | Ann Binnal | | | | | |
| | Married | 15 May 1848 | Place | Birmingham, Warwickshire, England | SealSp | 22 Jul 1994 JRIVE | |

James Butler, Kentucky Settler

John Lowe Butler, in his *Autobiography*, wrote “My Father was James Butler...the 5th child of Wm. and Phebe Butler. My grand mother was named Childres before her marriage.”¹ Unfortunately, John did not give us his father’s birth date nor place; and, as a result, birth dates for James Butler range from the early 1770s through 1780 in the numerous extant Butler genealogies. From James’s place, fifth child, in the family of William and Phebe Butler and from other circumstantial evidence, 1774 seems a plausible birth date to assume.

Since many of William Butler’s Regulator activities took place in Orange County, North Carolina, it seems reasonable to assume that at least some of his children might have been born there. However, Vincent Butler, a son of James, wrote that his father was born “on the Appomattox River in Virginia.”² This might well be true; William was in Fincastle County, Virginia, in 1773 when his brother-in-law William Watson wrote to him, sending love “to you and your family,” implying that William’s family was with him. (Note that Fincastle County, Virginia, was created from Botetourt County in 1772 and discontinued in 1777.)

Sometime between the 1800 Census, when James Butler appeared to be living with his mother “Pheebly Butler” in Rowan County, North Carolina, and March 1802, James had moved to Kentucky.

James Butler married Charity Lowe in either Warren County or Logan County, Kentucky, on 1 March 1802.³ James and Charity were married by her father William Lowe, probably in the Lowe home, located near the Butlers. The marriage is reported to be the first marriage performed in Simpson County, Kentucky (or that part of Warren County or Logan County that became Simpson County in 1819). William Lowe (1756–1835) enlisted for the Revolutionary War in the summer of 1775 and served under Captain Joseph Phillips; in 1776 through 1780, he served in the companies commanded by Captains William Dobson, Minor Smith, and Joel Lewis. In 1781, he was in Colonel Pickens’s regiment in South Carolina.⁴ In a brief sketch of his life, William Lowe is said to have been a skilled mechanic, making the first axe, the first plow, the first spinning wheel, and the first hominy mill in Simpson County, Kentucky—as well as performing the first marriage, that of his daughter Charity to James Butler. Although he belonged to no church, he went from house to house, expounding the Holy Bible. Among his last words were: “If this is death, it is not so bad as I expected.”⁵

¹For a careful transcription of the *Autobiography*, see William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Aspen Books, 1993), pp. 369–434.

²Letter from Vincent Butler (son of James) in 1839 from Carrollton County, Missouri, to his cousin, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Butler, as quoted in a subsequent letter, dated 5 April 1972, from John Henry Butler of Winchester, Kentucky (grandson of L.Q.C.) to Beatrice Butler Ferguson (granddaughter of L.Q.C.) of Gastonia, North Carolina.

³The marriage is recorded in the court records of Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky, as well as in the court records of Russellville, Logan County, Kentucky (Simpson County was formed in 1819 from Allen, Logan, and Warren Counties).

⁴DAR *Lineage Books*, Volume 63, p. 241.

⁵John H. Spencer, *History of Kentucky Baptists* (Cincinnati, Ohio: J. R. Baumes, 1886), FHL film 0896971; this book has over 800 biographical sketches.

The Logan County Court, in November 1802, ordered that James Butler in the Drake's Creek Settlement fill the justice of peace office for the county (note that the part of Logan County where James Butler lived became part of Simpson County when the latter county was formed in 1819).

In a curious note, dated 25 October 1805 and signed by Edmund Butler and James Butler, both of Simpson County, Kentucky, they bind themselves and their heirs to pay \$500 to their brother William Butler, of Iredell County, North Carolina (near Houstonville) "if the said Pheeby Butler should Ever interupt him," mentioning 400 acres of land.¹

On 29 June 1811, James Butler paid for a survey of a 200-acre parcel of land belonging to wife Charity Lowe's family.²

James Butler of Simpson County, Kentucky, on 9 August 1826, named his brother Edmund as his attorney in a legal document drawn up for the purpose of claiming right to their Uncle (General) John Butler's estate in Orange County, North Carolina, which apparently had been taken over by Richard Christmas, the second husband of General John Butler's widow, who died intestate.³

Following the death of his mother, James Butler, of Simpson County, Kentucky, wrote to his brother William Butler, Iredell County, North Carolina, Houstonville Post Office, giving an account of her illness and death. She had been living with his sister Fanny Plummer, but was in James's home when she died peacefully on 26 January 1831; she was buried on the same day in William Lowe's burying ground, where James himself had buried four infants. James also mentions that he had "a lovely daughter die the 6th of January," his third child named Salley, who was married to Dickson Allen. Mother Butler's funeral was to be preached the "last Sunday in May by a Baptist Methodist preacher."⁴ (See full text of letter on p. 40.)

James Butler died sometime between January 1831, when he wrote the letter quoted above, and November 1841, when his widow Charity Butler had his baptism done by proxy in a wooden font in the basement of the still uncompleted Nauvoo Temple.⁵ He undoubtedly died before March 1835 when Charity herself was baptized in Simpson County, Kentucky, by Mormon Elders.



¹Descendants of John Lowe <http://www.familytreemaker.com>.

²Murray, *Deed Abstracts of Warren County*, 102, number 416 (see Hartley, p. 2).

³This document is among the Butler papers housed in the Southern Historical Collection of the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill. See section for William Butler here.

⁴Ibid.

⁵See Hartley, p. 110.

John Lowe Butler Family, p. 1

| Family Group Record | | | | Page 1 of 2 |
|--|--|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Husband John Lowe Butler | | | | |
| Born | 8 Apr 1808 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
| Chr. | | Place | Baptized 9 Mar 1835 | |
| Died | 10 Apr 1860 | Place Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | Endowed 15 Dec 1845 | NAUVO |
| Buried | | Place Spanish Fork Cemetery, Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealPar 29 Sep 1953 | SLAKE |
| Married | 3 Feb 1831 | Place Sumner County, Tennessee | SealSp 23 Sep 1843 | |
| Other Spouse | Charity Skeen | | | |
| Married | 23 Sep 1843 | Place Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois | SealSp 23 Sep 1843 | |
| Other Spouse | Sarah Lancaster | | | |
| Married | 6 Feb 1846 | Place Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois | SealSp 6 Feb 1846 | NAUVO |
| Other Spouse | Sarah Bryant | | | |
| Married | Mar 1846 | Place Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois | SealSp Mar 1846 | NAUVO |
| Other Spouse | Ann or Hannah Hughes | | | |
| Married | 9 Mar 1857 | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 9 Mar 1857 | POFFI |
| Other Spouse | Lovisa Hamilton | | | |
| Married | 9 Mar 1857 | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 9 Mar 1857 | POFFI |
| Other Spouse | Esther Emily Ogden | | | |
| Married | 9 Mar 1857 (D) | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 9 Mar 1857 | POFFI |
| Other Spouse | Henrietta Seaton Blythe | | | |
| Married | 8 Sep 1857 | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 8 Sep 1857 | POFFI |
| Husband's father | James Butler | | | |
| Husband's mother | Charity Lowe | | | |
| Wife Caroline Farozine Skeen | | | | |
| Born | 15 Apr 1812 | Place Near Drake's Creek, Sumner County, Tennessee | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
| Chr. | | Place | Baptized 9 Mar 1835 | |
| Died | 4 Aug 1875 | Place Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah | Endowed 21 Aug 1855 | EHOUS |
| Buried | See notes | Place Spanish Fork Cemetery, Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealPar 26 Sep 1962 | ARIZO |
| Wife's father | Jesse Skeen | | | |
| Wife's mother | Keziah Taylor | | | |
| Children List each child in order of birth. | | | | |
| | | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple |
| 1 | M | Kenion Taylor Butler | | |
| Born | 17 Nov 1831 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized 1839 | |
| Chr. | | Place | Endowed 16 Feb 1858 | EHOUS |
| Died | 1 May 1886 | Place Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 | SGEOR |
| Buried | 3 May 1886 | Place Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | | |
| Spouse | Olive Durfey | | | |
| Married | 5 Dec 1854 | Place Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealSp 16 Feb 1858 | EHOUS |
| 2 | M | William Alexander Butler | | |
| Born | 20 Apr 1833 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized Child | |
| Chr. | | Place | Endowed Child | |
| Died | 4 Aug 1833 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 | SGEOR |
| Buried | | Place | | |
| Spouse | | | | |
| Married | | Place | SealSp | |
| 3 | F | Charity Artemesia Butler | | |
| Born | 13 Jun 1834 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized Apr 1843 | |
| Chr. | | Place | Endowed 18 Oct 1862 | EHOUS |
| Died | 10 Dec 1908 | Place Pinto, Washington, Utah | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 | SGEOR |
| Buried | | Place Pinto Cemetery, Pinto, Washington County, Utah | | |
| Spouse | Amos Griswold Thornton | | | |
| Married | 4 Oct 1862 | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 18 Oct 1862 | EHOUS |
| Spouse | Hamilton Monroe Wallace (Sr.) (farmer) | | | |
| Married | 5 Oct 1855 (D) | Place Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | SealSp 5 Sep 1856 | EHOUS |
| 4 | F | Keziah Jane Butler | | |
| Born | 25 Feb 1836 | Place At Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky | Baptized 1 Mar 1844 | |
| Chr. | | Place | Endowed 16 Feb 1858 | EHOUS |
| Died | 15 May 1895 | Place New Harmony, Washington County, Utah | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 | SGEOR |
| Buried | 16 May 1895 | Place New Harmony, Washington County, Utah | | |
| Spouse | Lemuel Hardison Redd | | | |
| Married | 2 Jan 1856 | Place Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | SealSp 16 Feb 1858 | EHOUS |
| 5 | F | Phoebe Melinda Butler | | |
| Born | 16 Dec 1837 | Place Mirabile, Caldwell County, Missouri | Baptized 1846 | |
| Chr. | | Place | Endowed 16 Feb 1858 | EHOUS |
| Died | 14 Aug 1892 | Place Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 | SGEOR |
| Buried | 16 Aug 1892 | Place Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah | | |
| Prepared by | Beryl Putnam Duffin | | Address | 2300 Anza Avenue |
| Phone | | | | Davis, California 95616 |
| E-mail address | | | | |
| Date prepared | 11 Aug 2007 | | | |

John Lowe Butler Family, p. 2

| Family Group Record | | | | | | | Page 2 of 2 | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---|--------|---------------------------|--|
| Husband | | John Lowe Butler | | | | | | |
| Wife | | Caroline Farozine Skeen | | | | | | |
| Children | | List each child in order of birth. | | | LDS ordinance dates | Temple | | |
| 5 | F | Phoebe Melinda Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Spouse | | George Washington Sevy | | | | |
| | | Married | 5 Dec 1854 | Place | Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | | SealSp 16 Feb 1858 EHOUS | |
| 6 | F | Caroline Elizabeth Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 29 Dec 1839 | Place | Near Quincy, Adams County, Illinois | | Baptized 1849 | |
| | | | | Place | | | Endowed 5 Nov 1864 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 3 Feb 1866 | Place | Goshen, Utah County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | | | |
| | | Spouse | | George Wilkins | | | | |
| | | Married | 8 Apr 1857 (D) | Place | Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | | SealSp 8 Apr 1857 EHOUS | |
| 7 | F | Sarah Adeline Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 15 Feb 1841 | Place | Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois | | Baptized 15 Feb 1849 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 23 Jun 1874 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 20 Jun 1923 | Place | Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | 22 Jun 1923 | Place | Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah | | | |
| | | Spouse | | Philo Allen | | | | |
| | | Married | 9 Mar 1857 (D) | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 9 Mar 1857 POFFT | |
| | | Spouse | | John Henry Tuttle | | | | |
| | | Married | 28 Jun 1895 | Place | Manti Temple, Sanpete County, Utah (For Time Only) | | SealSp | |
| 8 | M | John Lowe Butler II | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 28 Feb 1844 | Place | Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois | | Baptized Jun 1853 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 23 Jun 1873 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 30 Dec 1898 | Place | Richfield, Sevier County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | 2 Jan 1899 | Place | Richfield, Sevier County, Utah | | | |
| | | Spouse | | Nancy Franzetta Smith | | | | |
| | | Married | 23 Jun 1873 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 23 Jun 1873 EHOUS | |
| | | Spouse | | Sariah Johnson | | | | |
| | | Married | 10 Apr 1882 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 10 Apr 1882 SLAKE | |
| 9 | M | James Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 5 Feb 1847 | Place | Ponca Camp, Dixon County, Nebraska | | Baptized 1855 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 2 Mar 1874 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 27 Mar 1900 | Place | Provo, Utah County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | 4 Apr 1900 | Place | Spanish Fork, Utah County, Utah | | | |
| | | Spouse | | Charlotte Elizabeth Topham | | | | |
| | | Married | 3 Feb 1874 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 2 Mar 1874 EHOUS | |
| 10 | F | Lucy Ann Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 23 Feb 1849 | Place | Kanesville (Council Bluffs), Pottawattamie County, Iowa | | Baptized Apr 1857 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 9 Oct 1866 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 18 Aug 1935 | Place | Paragonah, Iron County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | 20 Aug 1935 | Place | Paragonah, Iron County, Utah | | | |
| | | Spouse | | Joseph Penn Barton | | | | |
| | | Married | 9 Oct 1866 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 9 Oct 1866 EHOUS | |
| 11 | M | Thomas Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 9 May 1851 | Place | Kanesville (Council Bluffs), Pottawattamie County, Iowa | | Baptized 6 Nov 1859 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 24 May 1883 | |
| | | Died | 16 Apr 1892 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah | | SealPar 2 Jun 1889 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | | Place | | | | |
| | | Spouse | | | | | | |
| | | Married | | Place | | | SealSp | |
| 12 | F | Alveretta Farozine Butler | | | | | | |
| | | Born | 26 Mar 1854 | Place | Palmyra (Spanish Fork), Utah County, Utah | | Baptized 1862 | |
| | | Chr. | | Place | | | Endowed 2 Oct 1871 EHOUS | |
| | | Died | 10 Jan 1940 | Place | Paragonah, Iron County, Utah | | SealPar 7 Oct 1881 SGEOR | |
| | | Buried | 12 Jan 1940 | Place | Paragonah, Iron County, Utah | | | |
| | | Spouse | | James Coupe Robinson | | | | |
| | | Married | 2 Oct 1871 | Place | Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah | | SealSp 2 Oct 1871 EHOUS | |

John Lowe Butler Chronology

We have two early transcriptions of John Lowe Butler's *Autobiography*. The earliest, transcribed by A. J. Burton of Eugene, Oregon, was among the genealogy and family history notes of Lydia Adaline Thornton Duffin. This transcription appears to have been reproduced on a mimeograph machine, perhaps in the early part of the twentieth century. A second transcription was arranged and reproduced by Hazel Butler Peters of Glendale, California, and her brother John Wendell Butler of Richmond, Massachusetts. The "Preface" of this latter edition, written by Helen Thurber Dalton of Boise, Idaho, is dated 21 March 1957.

The original *Autobiography* was donated to the Church Historian's Office in 1904 by James Alma Butler.¹ Another faithfully transcribed edition of the *Autobiography* is found in William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom: History and Autobiography of John Lowe Butler, a Mormon Frontiersman*, pp. 369–434.²

Below is a chronology of major events in the family of John and Caroline Butler, compiled from data in John's *Autobiography*, in the stories passed on by daughters of John and Caroline to their children, and in the Hartley book cited above.

| | | |
|------|--|---|
| 1808 | 8 April | John Lowe Butler born at Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky. |
| 1812 | 15 April | Caroline Farozine Skeen born at Drake's Creek in Sumner County, Tennessee. |
| 1831 | 3 February 17 November | John Lowe Butler and Caroline Farozine Skeen married. Kenion Taylor Butler born. |
| 1833 | 20 April 4 August | William Alexander Butler born. William Alexander Butler dies. |
| 1834 | 13 June | Charity Artemesia Butler born. |
| 1835 | 1 March 9 March | John Lowe Butler family taught by Mormon missionaries James Emmett and Peter Dustin. John Lowe Butler and Caroline Skeen Butler baptized by James Emmett at "about two o'clock in the afternoon." |
| 1836 | 25 February April 16 June 29 June | Keziah Jane Butler born. John Lowe Butler, with his family, leaves Simpson County, Kentucky, to join Saints in Clay County, Missouri. Butlers arrive in Ray County, Missouri; stay for a time with "Father" James Allred; then go on to Clay County. Mormon Expulsion Resolution in Clay County. |

¹The documents formerly kept in the old Church Historian's Office are now housed in the Archives of the Historical Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah.

²Published in 1993 by Aspen Books, Salt Lake City, Utah.

| | | |
|------|---------------------|---|
| | Fall | Butlers, with others, leave Clay County for Far West, Caldwell County. John Lowe Butler buys 120 acres in Mirabile, two miles south of Far West. They stay at Far West for two winters. |
| 1837 | 3 July (undated) | Cornerstone laid for temple at Far West, Missouri. Patriarchal Blessing to John Lowe Butler at Far West, Missouri, by Isaac Morley (only the year given, no day or month). |
| | 16 December | Phoebe Melinda Butler born. |
| 1838 | Summer | Butlers move to Colfax Township, Daviess County, Missouri; John buys 160+ acres there. |
| | 6 August | Election day at Gallatin, Daviess County; John wields oak stick. |
| | 27 October | Extermination Order by Missouri Governor Boggs. |
| | 2 November | John flees Far West with other Church leaders. |
| 1839 | February | Caroline Butler and children, with other refugees, head east for Quincy, Illinois. |
| | 10/11 March | John reunited with Caroline and children at the freezing Mississippi River, west of Quincy. |
| | 19 May | John ordained Seventy. |
| | 1 June | John called on mission to "State of Illinois." |
| | 19 December | Caroline Elizabeth Butler born. |
| 1840 | January | John returns from mission. |
| | March | John checks out Commerce (Nauvoo), Illinois, and moves family there. |
| | Summer | John leaves for first mission to Sioux Indians (fish miracle). |
| | October | John returns from first Sioux mission. |
| | Late | John leaves for second Sioux mission. |
| 1841 | 14 February | John returns from second Sioux mission. |
| | 15 February | Sarah Adeline Butler born. |
| | 6 April | Nauvoo Temple cornerstone laid. |
| | November | Proxy baptisms done for deceased Butler relatives in Temple basement baptismal font. |
| 1842 | 3 February | John chosen one of twelve bodyguards and an aide-de-camp for Prophet. |
| | 28 April | Caroline becomes member of Nauvoo Female Relief Society (organized 17 March). |
| | September | John returns to Kentucky for three months to preach Gospel to relatives and old friends; brings Caroline's deaf sister, Charity Skeen, back with him to Nauvoo. |
| 1843 | 23 September | John sealed to Caroline by Patriarch Hyrum Smith in the home of John's married sister, Lucy Butler Allred (John was also sealed to Charity Skeen about the same time, perhaps on the same day). |
| 1844 | 28 February | John Lowe Butler II born. |
| | 27 June | Joseph and Hyrum Smith martyred at Carthage Jail; John gone all that night, retrieving their bodies. |
| | August | Conference at which Charity Butler and her family witness mantle of Joseph Smith fall upon Brigham Young. John appointed a bodyguard for Brigham |

| | | |
|---------|--------------|--|
| | | Young. |
| | 21 December | Patriarchal Blessings to John Lowe Butler and Caroline Butler at Nauvoo by Patriarch John Smith. |
| | December | John called to take family up the Iowa River to help lead renegade James Emmett company/expedition. |
| 1845 | January | Butlers arrive at Emmett Camp. |
| | Mid-February | Butlers camp at "Big Woods," a few miles northwest of present Marshalltown, Iowa, at a point on the Iowa River near present Albion. |
| | 15 April | Posse arrives to arrest John, Lyman Hinman, and others; they are falsely charged for stealing cattle and taken to Iowa City to stand trial; case is dismissed. |
| | 29 April | John and others return from Iowa City (Emmett's camp had moved twelve miles farther up Iowa River). |
| | 7 June | Emmett Company reaches Missouri River Valley (at Fort Vermillion in western Iowa, near Nebraska border), in territory of Sioux Chief Henri. John and others in the camp go among the Sioux from time to time, teaching the Gospel. |
| | 3 October | John called back to Nauvoo; leaves family at Camp Vermillion. |
| | 15 December | John receives endowment in the Nauvoo Temple. |
| 1846 | 6 February | John sealed to Sarah Lancaster (age 39) and her mother Sarah Bryant Lancaster (age 74); flees with them in February-March Nauvoo exodus; sees older Sarah off for Indiana; takes younger Sarah with him; Charity Skeen Butler returns to Kentucky. |
| | 26 March | John in Brigham Young's camp on west bank of Chariton River; then leaves to go up and join Caroline. |
| | 25 April | John reunited with Caroline (3pm); learns of her sufferings in his absence. |
| | 5 May | Emmett Company wagon train leaves Camp Vermillion, crosses Missouri River, and heads for main body of Saints. |
| | June | Butlers and Emmett Company camp near Missouri border, south of |
| Council | | Bluffs. |
| | July | Butlers cross Missouri River and go on up to burned-out Pawnee Village. |
| | 23 August | After crossing half of Nebraska, Butlers reach Ponca Village, where they winter (west and south of Niobrara, Nebraska). |
| 1847 | 5 February | James Butler born. |
| | 25 March | Brigham Young calls Ponca Saints to Winter Quarters to prepare to go West. |
| | 10 April | Butlers with Ponca Saints leave for Winter Quarters; Butlers not ready to cross plains in 1847. |
| 1848 | | Butlers, with the Saints, required to leave Winter Quarters, cross Missouri River to Pottawatomie Indian territory around Iowa Bluffs. Settle at Miller's Hollow, later called Kaneshville (now downtown Council Bluffs). John takes third wife Sarah and works in Weston, Missouri (between St. Joseph and Independence), as a cooper (for expenses to cross plains). |
| 1849 | 23 February | Lucy Ann Butler born. |
| | April | John and Sarah return from Missouri for a short visit and then go back so that John can continue working in Missouri. |

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| 1850 | January | John and Sarah return to Kanesville. |
| 1851 | 9 May | Thomas Butler born. |
| 1852 | July 19 October Late | Eli B. Kelsey wagon train, with the Butlers, leaves Kanesville. Kelsey wagon train rolls into Great Salt Lake Valley. John moves his family to Palmyra (Spanish Fork), Utah. |
| 1854 | 26 March 5 December 5 December | Alveretta Farozine Butler born. Kenion Taylor Butler and Olive Durfey married. Phoebe Melinda Butler and George Washington Sevy married. |
| 1855 | 26 February Summer 16 August 21 August 5 October | A third Patriarchal Blessing to John Lowe Butler at Palmyra (Spanish Fork), by Isaac Morley. Isaac Morley gives Charity Artemetia [<i>sic</i>] Butler her Patriarchal Blessing on this day also. Crop destruction by grasshoppers. John consecrates all his possessions to the Church. ¹ Caroline receives her endowment in the Endowment House, Salt Lake City. Charity Artemesia Butler and Hamilton Monroe Wallace, Sr., married (and later divorced). |
| 1856 | 2 January May | Keziah Jane Butler and Lemuel Hardison Redd married. John made Bishop of Spanish Fork Ward. |
| 1857 | 9 March 9 March 8 April 8 September | Sarah Adeline Butler and Philo Allen married. John Lowe Butler sealed to Hannah (Ann) Hughes, Lovisa Hamilton, and Esther Emily Ogden (she divorced John same year). Caroline Elizabeth Butler and George Wilkins married. John Lowe Butler sealed to Henrietta Seaton Blythe. |
| 1860 | 10 April | John Lowe Butler dies. |
| 1862 | 4 October | Charity Artemesia Butler and Amos Griswold Thornton married. |
| 1866 | 9 October | Lucy Ann Butler and Joseph Penn Barton married. |
| 1871 | 2 October | Alveretta Farozine Butler and James Coupe Robinson married. |
| 1873 | 23 June | John Lowe Butler II and Nancy Franzetta Smith married. |
| 1874 | 3 February | James Butler and Charlotte Elizabeth Topham married. |
| 1875 | 4 August | Caroline Farozine Skeen Butler dies. |
| 1881 | 7 October | Butler children meet at St. George Temple to be sealed to parents. |

¹Deed presented at the Utah County Probate Court before Isaac Higbee, Judge of the Probate Court; recorded 16 August 1855, Utah County Deeds, Book B, pp. 355, 356.

- 1890 10 November Thomas Butler contracts with stonemason M. Mickelson in Spanish Fork to make an eight-foot marble monument for John Lowe Butler, with “three pieces of cocoone or rock,” along with seven small marble headstones, 9 by 20, for other family members. A Book of Mormon and family history items of Bishop Butler, to be placed in the middle brace, are to be given to M. Mickelson by 5 December 1890.
- 1964 8 August Butler family reunion (the first of many to follow), arranged by Ross Butler of Ontario, Oregon, at the Spanish Fork Cemetery; John Lowe Butler monument dismantled to retrieve items placed there in 1890. “The only thing that was any good was the 1880 edition of the Book of Mormon. Moisture, ants, etc., had done away with the history, but as Ross stated, “This has accomplished the purpose of getting the family actively organized once again” (letter, 3 November 1965, from LaRae Johnson, Spanish Fork, Butler Family Organization Secretary). The monument then was resealed.



Children of John Lowe Butler and Caroline Farozine Skeen, 1881

On 7 October 1881, the children of John and Caroline Butler met in the St. George Temple to be sealed to their parents.

Standing, left to right: Alveretta Farozine, Phoebe Melinda, Keziah Jane, Lucy Ann, and Sarah Adeline.

Seated, left to right: Charity Artemesia, James, Kenion Taylor, John Lowe II.

Inset at left: Thomas, who did not join the group that day.

John Lowe Butler Consecration Deed, Recorded 16 August 1855

John L. Butler: Consecration Deed

Be it known by these presents that I John Lowe Butler of Palmyra City in the County of Utah and Territory of Utah, for and in consideration of the good will which I have to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints give and convey unto Brigham Young Trustee in trust for said Church, his successors in Office and Assigns, all my claim to, and ownership of the following described property to wit

Lots two & three in Block 142 cont. 30 Acres
 Also the East half of Lot 4 in Block 142
 and Lot 3 in Block 142 cont. 50 Acres the above land is in Patent Survey of farming land in the afore said Co & Territory Value \$ 440. 00

Also One Place with two Villains in Palmyra 100. 00
 One Yoke of Oxen & Wagon 140. 00
 4 Cows at \$20 each & 3 Calves at \$4 each 135. 00
 15 head of Sheep at \$5 per head 90. 00
 One Pig 6. 00
 2 Cooking Stoves at \$50 each 100. 00
 One Set of Block with tools 125. 00
 Household furniture Beds Bedding 100. 00
 One half of a windmill Threshing Machine 350. 00
 Farming tools & One Gun 25. 00

Total Amt Two thousand & twenty two Dollars \$ 2022. 00

Recorded August 16th. ad. 1855

“Be it known to those present that I, John Lowe Butler of Palmyra City [Spanish Fork] in the County of Utah and Territory of Utah, for and in consideration of the good will which I have to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints give and convey to Brigham Young Trustee in trust for said Church, his successors in Office and Assigns, all my claim to and ownership of the following described property, to wit...”

[List of items totals to \$2,022.00.]

John Lowe Butler Consecration Deed, continued

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together with all the rights, privileges, and appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining I also covenant and agree, that I am the lawful claimant and owner of said Property, and will warrant and forever defend the same, unto the said Trustee in trust his successors in Office, and Assigns, against the claims of my heirs, assigns, or any person whomsoever.

Witnesses

Lucius N Scovil
 Charles W Moeller
 George W Adair

John Lowe Butler (T.S.)

Territory of Utah
 County of Utah

I Isaac Higbee Judge of the Probate Court of the aforesaid County do certify that the Signer of the above transfer, personally known to me, appeared this fourteenth Day of August A.D. 1855, and acknowledged that he of his own choice, executed the foregoing transfer.

Isaac Higbee Judge Probate.

Recorded Aug 16th 1855

“...together with all the rights, privileges, and appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining. I also covenant and agree that I am the lawful claimant and owner of said Property, and will warrant and forever defend the same, unto the said Trustee in trust his successors in Office and Assigns, against the claims of my heirs, assigns, or any person whomsoever.”

[signed] John Lowe Butler

Witnesses

Lucius N. Scovil
Charles W. Moeller
George W. Adair

Territory of Utah
County of Utah

“I Isaac Higbee Judge of the Probate Court of the aforesaid County do certify that the Signer of the above transfer, personally known to me, appeared this fourteenth Day of August AD 1855 and acknowledged that he of his own choice, executed the foregoing transfer.

Isaac Higbee Judge Probate

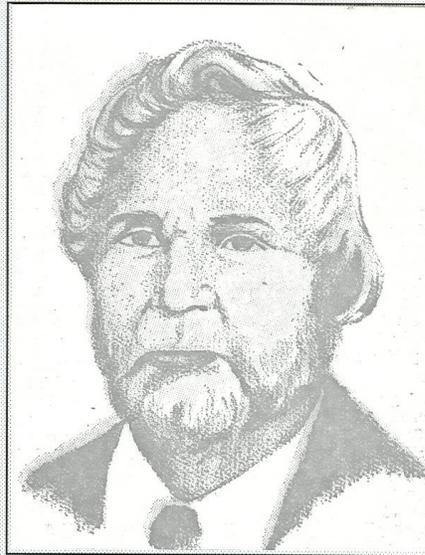
Patriarchal Blessing of John Lowe Butler, 1837

A Patriarchal Blessing by Isaac Morley in Far West, Missouri, 1837,
upon the head of John Lowe Butler, son of James and Charity
Lowe Butler, born in Simpson County, Kentucky, April 8, 1808.

Brother Butler, I lay my hands upon thy head in the name of Jesus Christ thy Redeemer and seal upon thy head equal blessings that were given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, for thy God is no respecter of persons, and thou hast become a legitimate heir to the Kingdom of thy Savior and the angels rejoiced at thy birth when thy name was registered in the Lamb's Book of Life. If thou art faithful and will treasure up and cultivate in thy bosom the precepts and the laws that were contained in the Kingdom of thy Savior, the priesthood with the power of the same shall be sealed upon thy head and if thou wilt apply thy mind, and the talent that is given to thee to seek after wisdom, knowledge, and intelligence, thou shalt become a swift messenger in the Kingdom of thy God and thou shalt become one of the horns to push the people together in these last days. The spirit of the living God shall be spread abroad in thy heart and the worth of souls shall be realized by thee and thy steps shall be traced from the Atlantic to the Pacific for if thou wilt magnify thy calling thou wilt yet become a mighty hunter among the mountains and valleys of the West, and thy labors shall be crowned with blessings and thy years shall extend to see Ephraim crowned for this is thy lineage and a husbandman shalt thou become to cultivate the earth that thy storehouse may be filled that the sons of Ephraim may be fed with a feast of fat things, when thy heart shall rejoice and cause thee to give glory to God and thou shalt be blessed with thy companion and thy children upon the land of thine everlasting inheritance to dwell with thy Savior and thy Redeemer forever and ever Amen and Amen.

Isaac Morley

When Oliver Cowdery and his missionary companions journeyed through Ohio on their mission to the Indians in 1830, Isaac Morley, a well-to-do farmer, was one of their first converts. Isaac Morley helped to settle Far West, Missouri, and while there, he was ordained a patriarch. Later he located near Lima, Illinois. In the fall of 1845, his houses, cooper's shop, property, and grain were burned by a mob and he was driven from his lands. He fled to Nauvoo, and in 1848, he crossed the plains to Salt Lake Valley. A year later, he led a company to Sanpete Valley in southern Utah and spent the remainder of his life there guiding the activities of the settlers. Isaac Morley was known affectionately as "Father Morley" and biographers have described him as one who never became discouraged in the face of hardships, but "exhorted his brethren to diligence, faithfulness, and good works.... [He was] a man of kind and gentle disposition, unassuming in his manner." He died at Fairview, Sanpete County, Utah, 24 June 1865.



Isaac Morley

Patriarchal Blessing of John Lowe Butler Nauvoo, Illinois, 21 December 1844

A Blessing of John Smith, Patriarch, upon the head
of John L., son of James and Charity Butler, born
Warren County,¹ Kentucky, April 8th, A.D. 1808.

Bro. John in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, I lay my hands upon thy head and seal upon thee a Father's blessing, even the Melchizedek Priesthood with all its powers and benefits, even the blessings of the Heavens above and the earth beneath, with all the blessings which were sealed upon the head of Joseph by his Father Jacob, even to the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills, with riches in abundance of earth and heaven; thou art called to be a Savior on Mount Zion and shall accomplish a great work in redeeming thy progenitors back to Abel, so that there shall not be a link broken in the chain; thou shalt also be a mighty man in gathering the remnants of Jacob; thy way lieth in the wilderness among the Lamanites and thou shalt be mighty in bringing them to a knowledge of their Fathers, and also to a knowledge of the Savior; thou shalt be prospered exceedingly and lead thousands to Zion with more riches to build up her waste places; thy name shall be had in honor among them as a Father forever; no power shall stay thy hand, for thou shalt have great faith and thy strength shall not fail; thou shalt use the sword against thine enemies like a Sampson, and those that have spoiled thee thou shalt spoil; inasmuch as they have robbed thee of thy substance, their substance shall be given to thee a hundred fold; thou shalt have an inheritance in Zion with thy brethren the children of Ephraim and thy possessions shall be very great; thou shalt live until the whole land of America is possessed by the Saints; thou shalt see Israel gathered in fullness and all the promises of the Lord concerning the Latter-day Glory shall be fulfilled; be satisfied with every good thing and inherit eternal life; this is thy blessing sealed upon thee by the authority of the Priesthood and cannot be broken only through disobedience. Amen²



¹Simpson County, Kentucky, was created in 1819 from Allen, Logan, and Warren Counties.

²Patriarchal Blessings, Vol. 6, p. 44, Church Historical Department, Salt Lake City, Utah..

Patriarchal Blessing of Caroline Butler Nauvoo, Illinois, 21 December 1844

A Blessing by John Smith, Patriarch, upon the head of Caroline Butler, daughter of Jesse and Keziah Skeene [*sic*], born April 15th, A.D. 1812, Sumner County, Tennessee.

Sister Caroline, I lay my hands upon thy head in the name of Jesus Christ and seal upon thee a Father's blessing because thou hast forsaken thy friends and good name among the Gentiles for the Gospel's sake to dwell with the Saints; thou are entitled to all the blessings of the new and everlasting covenant, with the power and benefits of the Holy Priesthood in common with thy companion, with faith to heal the sick in thy house, to have all power over the Destroyer that thy family may be preserved unto thee in the midst of the desolations which are sweeping the earth. I seal upon thee every blessing which has been promised to thy companion; thou shalt go with him considerably in his journeyings; thou shalt comfort him in his afflictions; thou shalt have the ministering of Angels to comfort thee; all this because thou are a lawful heir having descended from Ephraim; thy name shall be known as a Mother among the Lamanites forever; thy posterity shall be numerous and shall be mighty men of war; their enemies shall flee before them; thou shalt have plenty of riches and shall live until thou art satisfied with life and every good thing; thou shalt come up in the first resurrection with thy companion and all thy friends and you shall be sealed and reign together for all eternity; this is thy blessing and it is sure if thy faith fails not. Sealed upon thee by the authority of the Holy Priesthood. Amen.¹



¹Patriarchal Blessings, Vol. 6, p. 44, Church Historical Department, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Patriarchal Blessing of John Lowe Butler
Palmyra,¹ 26 February 1855

Patriarchal blessing by Isaac Morley on the head of
John Lowe Butler, son of James and Charity Butler,
born April 8, 1808, in Simpson Co., Kentucky.

Brother John L., in the name of Jesus and by virtue of the Priesthood, I lay my hands upon thy head and I ratify all thy former seals and blessings by authority of the Holy Priesthood and I say unto thee thy blessings shall be realized and verified upon. Thou art in the family of Abraham by covenant and by promise. Thy heirship is second to them by perseverance and by thy faithfulness. Thou hast been led in a mysterious way yet been led by a kind Providence. Thou wilt be honored in this last dispensation of laying the foundation of a great work upon the land of Zion where thou wilt receive thy inheritance in the day when thy enemies are put under thy feet. Thou art beginning to receive thy reward for thy labors whereby the door is open after much tribulations to receive thy blessings. Thou art to the head of the family honored with a goodly number as the blessings of the Lord unto thee. Thou shalt stand at their head to be a Father to thy posterity and yet become a Patriarch to place thy seals and blessings upon them, and like Abraham of old thou wilt be called the Father of the faithful. Thy posterity will revere thy name bearing the keys of the everlasting Priesthood down to the latest ages of thy generations. Thou wilt realize thy greatest conferred upon thee while passing the ordinances. There are many principles that have not as yet entered thy heart that will illuminate thy mind and fill thy heart with the love of God. The Priesthood with the seals pertaining thereto are eternal and will become the governing principles of thy mind while standing at the head of thy family. All kingdoms are governed by the power and authority of which thou hast become in part a partaker. Thou art in the path that will grow brighter and brighter until the perfect day. As to thy blood and thy ... thou art from Joseph through the loins of Ephraim. I now seal thee up to enjoy the blessings of eternal lives in the Kingdom of our God even so Amen and Amen.

A. L. Morley, S. and Recorder



¹Palmyra, Utah, in 1855, was renamed Spanish Fork.

Patriarchal Blessing of Charity Butler Palmyra,¹ 26 February 1855

A Patriarchal Blessing by Isaac Morley on the head of Charity Artimetia [*sic*] Butler, daughter of John L. and Caroline F. Butler, born July [*June*] 13th, 1855, at Simpson County, Kentucky.

Sister Charity in the name of the Lord we lay our hands upon thy head; by the authority of the Holy Priesthood we ratify the seal and blessing of thy Father upon thee which is a principle of promise that will comfort thy heart and enlighten thy mind for the seals of the Priesthood are everlasting the property of those who live in covenant with their Creator. The Lord has blessed thee with integrity of heart, with fidelity of mind to honor and reverence the name of the Deity for which thy heart and thy mind is inclined. Thou art blessed of the Lord with faculties of mind to be improved whereby thou wilt be enabled to communicate principles of light and truth to thy associates. Thou shalt be directed of the Lord in thy pursuits and choices for life. Thou wilt associate with the Lord's annointed, with men of honor. Thou shalt be blest in the domestic circle dwelling in a habitation of peace before the Lord; many will be comforted by thy counsels and thy precepts. Thou shalt be honored of the Lord in rearing sons and daughters that will honor and reverence thy counsels. Thou art of Joseph a rightful heir to the seals and Blessings of the Priesthood. Thou shalt participate in the blessings of the Holy Ordinances where thy mind will be stored with light and be brought to understand principles that will be of greater worth to thy mind than all the treasures of the earth. Thou wilt be favoured by heirship and by adoption belonging to the family of God. Therefore, receive the seal of thy Father as from a divine origin and in thine attainments thou shalt be crowned with glory immortality and eternal lives in the Kingdom of our God, even so.

Amen and Amen.



¹In 1855, Palmyra, Utah, was renamed Spanish Fork.

Dismantling of John Lowe Butler Monument
Spanish Fork Cemetery, Utah County
8 August 1964¹

An Agreement between Thomas Butler and M. Mickelson
Spanish Fork, Utah, November 10, 1890

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, have agreed to put up a monument for Mr. Butler. A marble monument including three pieces of cocoon or rock, height 8 feet. Also seven small headstones, size 9 by 20, also marble, which is to be finished and put up on Spanish Fork graveyard all in good order.

The price of one horse, which I receive now at present, and 90 dollars in cash all valued at 190 dollars. The cash part is to be paid when the work is completed and received.

[signed] M. Mickelson

The work is to be finished in the forepart of December 1890. It is expected that the family will have a record of Bishop Butler written and placed in the middle brace properly and also Book of Mormon and others, etc. Which please hand into me before the 5th day of December 1890. [signed] M. Mickelson



John Lowe Butler monument before dismantling
8 August 1964



Crypt before seal was broken

¹“After a year’s work of collecting names on a petition, meeting with the city council, and numerous letters... the [John Lowe Butler Family] reunion took place [8 August 1964]. This day the tombstone was dismantled and the contents removed. These were viewed and then taken to the archivist at BYU and later returned to Ross [Butler]. They are now in my possession waiting to be placed in the DUP Museum in the basement of the new Spanish Fork Library... near completion. The only thing that was any good was the 1880 edition of the Book of Mormon. Moisture, ants, etc., had done away with the history, but as Ross has stated, “This has accomplished its purpose by getting the family actively organized once again” (letter, 3 November 1965, from LaRae Johnson, Butler Family Organization Secretary and Treasurer, 160 West Third North, Spanish Fork, Utah). LaRae sent the photographs shown here.

Dismantling of the Monument, 8 August 1974, continued



Ross E. Butler removing Book of Mormon



Ross E. Butler (left), Kenion Taylor Butler (right)



Vickie Johnson looking at empty crypt



The Next Day
Back: Sandra and Ervin Ottesen, Christie Johnson
Front: Vickie and Tamara Johnson
The children are holding pieces they had picked up from the sealing and the book.

John Lowe Butler Family Stories

Compilation of the Various Notes made by Lydia Adaline Thornton Duffin

The *Autobiography* of John Lowe Butler is considered a veritable treasure of Mormon pioneer history, but the tales passed on by John's wife Caroline and her daughters, particularly Charity Butler Thornton and Keziah Butler Redd, to their children reveal many delightful and poignant details either glossed over lightly or completely missing in John's account. At some point in her life, perhaps in the 1930s, Charity's daughter Lydia Adaline (Addie) Thornton Duffin (born in 1870) began to jot down stories on countless pieces of note paper, as she remembered them from her mother; none of these notes is dated. In addition, she wrote down a few stories given to her by a Mrs. Alex Adams, stories said to be told by Charity's sister Keziah to daughter Farozine Ellen Redd Bryner (Aunt Ellen Bryner), such as the tale of Grandmother Squaw and the delightful soap story. Also, in 1940, when she was seventy, Addie dictated some of her Thornton and Butler memories to niece Genevieve Thornton Arrington in New York City.

The first compilation of these many notes was made in 1971, with little editing except for an effort to put the stories into chronological sequence. Often Addie recorded a given incident in three to five different places at as many different sittings, each one adding a small detail or perspective that might be missing in her other notes about the incident. In such cases, the notes were "merged" and edited in order to include every detail and to avoid redundancy.

With this present edition, certain stories and events have been moved around (with bracketed or footnoted clarifying information) to achieve a more realistic time sequencing, made possible mainly by the extensively documented data in the book by William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom: History and Autobiography of John Lowe Butler, a Mormon Frontiersman*, 1993. The book also sometimes shows varying versions of a given tale, indicating perhaps that at least a few of these word-of-mouth family stories have taken on a somewhat legendary aura. Nevertheless, these writing of Addie are priceless; she has preserved for us in her own words a very special perspective of Mormon pioneer life from these remarkable Butler women.

Beryl Putnam Duffin
1999, 2007





From a tintype of Caroline Skeen Butler with her knitting; she is wearing a homespun dress.

Butler Family Stories

It was in the beautiful bluegrass state of Kentucky that my mother, Charity Artemesia Butler, was born on June 13, 1834, in Simpson County. She was the third child and eldest daughter of John Lowe Butler and Caroline Farozine Skeen.¹ Their first child was a son named Kenion Taylor Butler after his Grandmother on his mother's side [*Keziah Taylor Skeen*]. The second child was a son named [*William*] Alexander, who died in infancy.

Ancestors of this fine couple were Revolutionary patriots who served their country in helping to gain its independence from the mother country England. For services rendered, they received western lands in Kentucky and Tennessee.² William Lowe, grandfather of John Lowe Butler, was a pioneer in Simpson County, Kentucky.³ He was a man of integrity, a good neighbor who attracted people to him as they moved to that section of the country. He became a spiritual leader and went from door to door teaching the sacred truth of the Holy Bible. Although he performed no baptisms, he planted seed in virgin soil, and it has been left for future generations to tell the results. William Lowe was resourceful; to him credit is given for making the first ax, the first plow, and the first spinning wheel in Simpson County. He also performed, in 1831, the first marriage—that of his daughter Charity Lowe to James Butler, the son of William Butler.⁴

William Lowe's farm in Simpson County, Kentucky, was separated from the land of his neighbor, Jesse Skeen, by a stream of water.⁵ Jesse Skeen's plantation was in Sumner County, Tennessee, but the two pioneer homes were but a mile apart.

Jesse Skeen, father of Caroline Skeen Butler, engaged in cotton growing on his extensive plantation. The work on his plantation was done by Negro slaves who were comfortably housed and kindly treated by their master.⁶ The Butlers, although neighbors to the Skeens, did not believe in slavery; the Butlers never adopted the practice of having slaves do their work. The children of these two families, whose parents had opposite views in many respects, including religion, associated

¹John Lowe Butler was born 8 April 1808 at Drake's Creek, near Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky, the son of James Butler and Charity Lowe. Caroline Farozine Skeen was born 15 April 1812, just across Drake's Creek, in Sumner County, Tennessee, the daughter of Jesse Skeen and Keziah Taylor.

²William Butler, Regulator leader in North Carolina and paternal grandfather of John Lowe Butler, served in the Revolutionary War and died in South Carolina in 1790. His widow and some of his children, including James Butler, father of John Lowe Butler, went into Kentucky soon after 1800.

³William Lowe's acreage of land in Simpson County lay next to the land owned by James Butler, father of John Lowe Butler (see Hartley, pp. 10, 436).

⁴See William G. Hartley, *My Best for the Kingdom: History and Autobiography of John Lowe Butler, a Mormon Pioneer* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Aspen Books, 1993), p. 9.

⁵This stream of water was Drake's Creek, which ran across the state lines of Kentucky and Tennessee. (See Hartley map, p. 4).

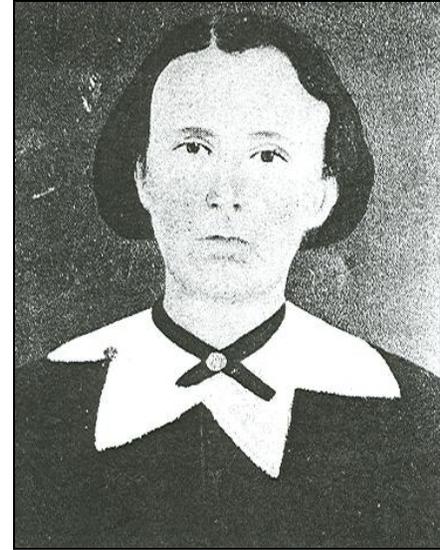
⁶Addie, in one of her notes, wrote that after the Civil War, Jesse Skeen's slaves pleaded with him to let them remain with him on his plantation. "This kind-hearted man granted them their desires and thus they were spared the pitiful flight in which most of the liberated slaves found themselves in those days." However, Jesse Skeen died on 16 January 1842, almost twenty years before the start of the Civil War in 1861. Perhaps this story originated with one of Jesse's sons?

together, as did their parents, in close friendship. The tall, handsome, blue-eyed John Lowe Butler won the heart of the slender, shy, but charming Caroline Farozine Skeen.

Farozine Butler Robinson¹ told me that according to her mother [*Caroline*], Jesse Skeen was born in Scotland and emigrated to America when a boy fifteen years of age [*i. e., about 1749?*]. He wore the Scotch plaid kilts and his hair in two long braids, one over each shoulder in front.

When Caroline Farozine Skeen married John Lowe Butler, the newlyweds were given two slaves by her father as a wedding present. They received the slaves graciously, but the next day gave them their freedom.

In the year 1835, James Emmett and his missionary companion [*Peter Dustin*] brought the message of the restored Gospel to the home of my grandparents, the John Lowe Butlers. It is interesting to note that William Lowe died on the day some of his descendants were baptized.² The teachings of Joseph Smith were accepted as truth, and John Lowe Butler and his wife became members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Caroline Farozine Skeen Butler
(No picture of John Lowe Butler exists.)

“Massa Angry”

Jesse Skeen, Caroline’s father, was much disturbed when he learned his daughter had been baptized into the Mormon Church. In fact, he became so angry that he threatened the lives of the Mormon Elders, and even that of his son-in-law. One evening a worried Negro slave of Jesse Skeen’s came to the Butler home in Kentucky and said, “Massa angry,” that Jesse was making bullets, melting lead by the fireplace and running it into bullet moulds, intending to use the bullets to kill John Lowe Butler and the Mormon Elders who had baptized his daughter. The slave, after warning them, was anxious to be on his way back to the Skeen plantation, eight miles distant; he wanted to get back before daylight so that no one might know he had been away. Grandmother [*Caroline*] hurriedly made a skillet cake for the faithful slave; he put it in his shirt and was soon on his way home. Caroline knew her father’s bad temper. The two Elders were in bed at the Butler home. Grandfather roused them. The three went to the stable, saddled a horse for each missionary, and the two rode many miles before dawn. Caroline had no sleep that night. When morning came, she went about her usual household duties. Just as the sun was coming up, she looked out of the window and saw her father coming on horseback with his gun across the front of his saddle. With a prayer in her heart, she took her little children down into the cellar. Looking out of a small window in the cellar, she watched her father arrive at the gate, get off his horse, put his gun by the gate and the bridle reins over the gate post, and start for the house. Her heart almost sank within her; then a feeling of peace came over her as the words of an old hymn came into her mind: “Fear not, I am with thee, oh be not dismayed; for I am thy God and will still give thee aid.” All fear left her, and with babe in arms

¹Alveretta Farozine Butler, born 1854, daughter of John Lowe Butler and Caroline Farozine Skeen, married James Coupe Robinson, 2 October 1871. The couple settled in Paragonah, Iron County, Utah.

²The baptisms were done on March 9 and 10, 1835; William Lowe died on March 17. See also, Hartley, p. 26.

and a little one clinging to her skirts, she returned to the kitchen just as her father entered the front door. He greeted her warmly, saying, “Good morning, Carrie, have you had breakfast? I am hungry.” She assured him that it would soon be ready. He enjoyed his little grandchildren; he was a kind and loving parent and grandparent. While they ate, Caroline had never seen her father in a more pleasant mood. They visited for some time. He never inquired once about the Mormon Elders or his son-in-law John Lowe Butler. He bade a pleasant good-bye and returned home.

On another occasion, when John heard that his father-in-law meant to kill him, he said, “Well, I have a gun and I can shoot, too.” At one point, Uncle John Lowe (John Lowe Butler’s uncle), the local Constable, “borrowed” the guns of both men, Jesse Skeen’s and John Lowe Butler’s.

Another child of Jesse Skeen, Charity, who was deaf and dumb, became converted to Mormonism through her sister Caroline, who repeated with her hands the message brought to the Butler home by the missionaries.¹ Charity was anxious to know why the men had come to Caroline’s home and what they were talking about, and she gave Caroline no peace until she was given the full message. Much of this was done at night after the Skeens had retired because Jesse Skeen was so bitterly opposed to the new doctrine.²

Missouri

Friends and kindred turned against those who became members of the unpopular Mormon Church and the spirit of gathering came upon these new converts. They made preparations to go to Missouri to meet the Prophet Joseph Smith and join the body of Saints there. Charity, my mother, was but three years old when her parents made this move by ox team.³

When the Butlers arrived in Clay County, Missouri, the Saints had already been driven from Jackson County and the farms they had purchased there.⁴ There was great distress and suffering, but the Butlers were happy to join the Saints and to know the Prophet.

[From Clay County, Missouri, in the fall of 1836, the Butlers went into that part of northern Ray County that became Caldwell County in December of that year. John bought 120 acres two miles south of Far West in a settlement called Mirabile.]

Grandfather Butler and his family went through the persecutions of the Saints, as they were driven from one county to another in Missouri. When the Prophet was in hiding and being hunted by the mob, Grandfather would also have to keep in hiding, as the Prophet’s bodyguard. They would visit their families at night to secure food and clothing. At one time, when the persecution was high and the Brethren had to remain away from their homes, Grandfather asked Grandmother

¹Jesse Skeen had three deaf and dumb daughters: Elizabeth, Charity, and Mary (Polly). See also Hartley, pp. 14–15.

²Although Charity Skeen was baptized in 1835, she did not go with the Butlers when they joined the Saints in Missouri in 1836. In September 1842, John left Nauvoo and returned to Kentucky to preach the Gospel to his relatives and friends in Simpson County. When he went back to Nauvoo three months later, Charity went with him. She became his second wife in 1843.

³John Lowe Butler recorded that they left Simpson County “about the first of April”; but another Simpson County convert, Drusilla Hendricks, places the date as 1 May 1835. See Hartley, pp. 30–31.

⁴The Butlers went first to Ray County, where they stayed for a time with “Father” James Allred. From there they went to Clay County, arriving shortly before the Clay County Expulsion Resolution, 29 June 1836. See Hartley, p. 33.

to meet him at a certain tree near the Post Office, bringing food, clothing, etc., that he needed. When she did this, she found a large group of men at the Post Office and was at first afraid that they had seen what she was going to do; but the men remained so interested in something they were doing that she was able to accomplish her errand without being seen.

At Far West, while the Prophet and many of the Brethren were in Liberty Jail, John Lowe Butler and many others were in hiding. During this period, Caroline endured great hardships in caring for her family. The Saints were required to lay down their arms at Far West, and John Lowe Butler said it was the hardest thing he ever did.

[In the summer of 1838, John and his family moved to Colfax Township, Daviess County, Missouri, where he bought another 160+ acres.¹]

While the Butlers were in Daviess County, an incident occurred at Gallatin that has been recorded in Church History and told many times by my mother Charity. Daviess County citizens were not going to let Mormons vote on election day [6 August 1838], and an angry crowd had gathered at the polling place. Mormon men were physically attacked when they attempted to vote. John Lowe Butler, picking up an oak stick, swung through the crowd and said, “Come on, boys. Our father fought for our liberty and we will maintain the same principles.” He voted and others followed him. He was struck on the head with a loaded black whip, and he suffered from the effects of it until the day of his death. After he voted, he was surrounded by an armed mob who claimed, “You are our prisoner,” ordering John to lay down his stick and go with them. He said, “No, wherever I go, this stick goes.” One of the crowd said, as a circle opened for him, “For G— sake, let him go,” and he escaped. Grandfather was a powerful man, about six feet-three inches tall.² *[The next morning, John moved his family back to Far West.]*

The Butlers left Far West when Governor Boggs issued the order of expulsion of the Saints from the state of Missouri. *[The Extermination Order was given on 27 October 1838; and on 2 November 1838, John, with other Church leaders, fled from Far West into Illinois.]*

Nauvoo

That first winter [*winter of 1838–1839*], Grandfather taught school in Quincy, Illinois, to provide the necessities for his growing family, who were to join him the next spring when the rest of the Saints left Far West [*February 1839*]. With the assistance of Brother A. C. Smoot, who had a team of horses—Grandmother had a wagon—the two families wended their way with the refugees from Far West across the state of Iowa to establish what they hoped to be a permanent home in Illinois. Charity related that her mother Caroline was blind from sore eyes on this trip, and Sister Smoot had to lead her while they walked the long miles beside the wagon.

John Lowe Butler was among the men who went to Commerce, Illinois, ahead of the main body of the Church. He described Commerce as a mirey bog that he helped to drain; and he saw it transformed into a beautiful, desirable city under the Prophet’s blessing. There the Mormon people built the city Nauvoo, the word meaning “beautiful.” It was on a bend of the Mississippi River that sloped back to higher elevations. It was an idea setting for a city; and there they built a temple, the Nauvoo Temple.

¹See Hartley, pp. 34–39.

²Addie here reports that John voted, but in his *Autobiography*, John states that he “declined voting.” This Gallatin, Missouri, fracas is described in detail in Hartley, pp. 52–61.

A marvelous change came to Commerce in an incredibly short time. John Lowe Butler stated in his journal that the land yielded so abundantly they scarcely had places to contain the crops.

“Let’s Have a Wrestle”

Mother [*Charity*] remembered well their family life in Nauvoo. Grandmother [*Caroline*] was in the Prophet’s home many times. John Lowe Butler became a trusted friend and one of the bodyguards of the Prophet, who came frequently to the Butler home. The two often wrestled together. The Prophet was not often thrown by anyone, but Grandfather sometimes did throw him. Mother related to us children this incident: The Butlers were riding in a wagon past the Prophet’s home. Seeing them, the Prophet came out to the wagon and, after a pleasant conversation, challenged John to a wrestling match, “Come on, Brother John, let’s have a wrestle!” Grandfather got out of the wagon and engaged in this exercise, which both enjoyed. The Prophet was the victor. Both were tall men with fine physiques. Mother remembered that her father had just recovered from a recent illness and would rather not have wrestled then, but could not refuse the challenge. She said the two men engaged in this pastime frequently; sometimes one was the champion and sometimes, the other.

Nauvoo Temple and Buffalo Hair Gloves

As the Nauvoo Temple was in the course of construction, Charity with her playmates often walked around on the tops of the broad walls. She spoke of the stone faces engraved in the upper walls. How wonderful she thought they were, and reached down and touched them.

Every one of the women was taxed a given number of pennies to help build the Nauvoo Temple. The women raised \$2000 that paid for all the nails and glass in the Temple. Caroline, being unable to give any money, found other ways to help with her share. At one time, she found a large buffalo bull that had died. She had her boy stop the wagon and they got a large sack of the long hair off its mane. This she took home, washed and carded it, and spun it into yarn. Out of this yarn she made eight pairs of gloves for the workmen on the Temple. Like the widow’s mite, she did her bit to help the work carry on. Many other times, Grandmother was able to get hair from buffalos that had killed each other in fights. From this hair she made quilts, pillows, beds, and socks for her family.

Prophet’s Handkerchief

When Grandmother was ill in Nauvoo with malaria, she wanted to have the Prophet come and administer to her. There were so many sick at the time, he was unable to come; but he sent his handkerchief to put over her face. So great was her faith that she was made well. Another time, the Prophet told Caroline to give a child with worms all the hard honey he could eat on an empty stomach, then to follow it up with all the new milk he could drink, followed by a dose of castor oil.

Killing the Old Mother Pig

For a while, after moving to Nauvoo, the Butlers lived on a farm on the outskirts of the city; and Caroline was left alone quite often with her children. They had an old mother pig with a lot of nice piglets. When they were pretty good sized, one by one, every pig but the mother was stolen. Caroline told her oldest boy, Taylor, that they had better kill the old pig to make sure of meat for the family of six children [*1843*]. So with the help of her twelve-year-old boy, Caroline killed and dressed this large pig.

Escaping the Mob

One day, Grandfather met the Prophet on the street in Nauvoo. The Prophet asked Grandfather where his family was. When he learned they were out at the farm, the Prophet advised Grandfather to go at once and bring his family into Nauvoo before daylight. Grandfather immediately secured a team and wagon and went for them. Grandmother took the children up from their beds, put their bedding and what clothing they could take in the wagon, and the family went into Nauvoo that night. Just at dawn, a neighbor of the Butlers saw a large armed mob riding toward the Butler farm home. The neighbor remarked to his wife, "Butler's a goner." The mob surrounded the house, yelling like demons. When they discovered that no one was there, the farmhouse was set on fire and quickly went up in flames, together with all the family belongings that had not fit into the wagon the night before.

Fish Miracle

While the family was in Nauvoo, John Lowe Butler served two missions to the Indians. He was not fixed very well financially, but so great was his faith that he accepted these calls. After one of these missions was completed, he and his companions had to pass through hostile Indian country. They had been three days without any food, so when they came to a fork in the road, they knelt down and prayed for guidance to know which road to take. They were inspired to take the left-hand road, but they were discouraged after traveling a long way to find only a large barren waste of country. There was not a sign of anyone living as far as they could see. But suddenly they came to a stream of water literally filled with trout. The fish were so thick that they could catch them with their hands, so their prayer for food and protection was answered.¹

Other Recollections

In Nauvoo, the Butler family by their thrift and industry prospered and enjoyed good return for their labor. Charity told how she loved to wander in the woods around Nauvoo, gathering hazel nuts and other varieties of nuts and wild raspberries, and the strawberries that grew in corners and uncultivated spots in the fields. She also loved to dance, and she took dancing lessons as a young girl. Later in life, she sometimes entertained us children by repeating some of the steps she learned. Gliding smoothly sideways, she would count "1-2-3, there's 4 and 5; 6-7-8, there's 9 and 10," then gliding back to the same count. This always pleased us. Mother's friend, Mary Shumway (later Westover), was the only girl Mother knew who loved to dance as well as she.

Another dear friend in Nauvoo was Lydia Thornton, daughter of Oliver Thornton, who had come from Canada, having been baptized by John Taylor, who later became President of the Church. Mother and Lydia pledged in girlhood to each name a child for the other, which they did. (Lydia Thornton married Edmund Butler, John Lowe Butler's brother; and Charity married Amos Griswold Thornton, son of Oliver Thornton. Edmund and Lydia Thornton Butler had two children, both dying in infancy, and then Edmund died. All this happened before Lydia was twenty.)

But the happy life of the Saints was not long to continue. The same persecutions and bitter experiences in Missouri caught up with them again in the state of Illinois. The Prophet Joseph Smith many times was arrested and brought to courts of justice, and each time acquitted because his accusers could not prove he had injured anyone. As persecution raged, John Lowe Butler, as one of the bodyguards of the Prophet, was called away from his wife and family much of the time. And the

¹John's companion was probably James Emmett (see Hartley, pp. 101, 102).

care of his increasing family rested upon Caroline. Two children, Sarah and John, were born at Nauvoo.

“Mother, Are These the Mob?”

At one time, a group of men came to the Butler home in search of Grandfather. One of Grandmother’s little children clung close to her and kept saying, “Mother, are these the mob?” She wanted to silence him, but he kept repeating the question. In answering, she said, “Yes, child, these are the mob,” to which one of the men replied, “No, we are not the mob; we are the militia.”

Another time, a mob of men with blackened faces came hunting for Grandfather. After a fruitless search, they demanded that Caroline give them supper. She did not have much to cook with, so they made her kill a sheep and cook some of the mutton for them. When they sat down to eat, one of them demanded a fried egg. Caroline broke it into the frying pan and was going to cook it when he said to her, “Bring it to me. That is done enough.” As she did so, she recognized her brother and was surprised and said, “Oh, Alex, why would you bring trouble to your sister like this?” He said, “I’ve come to take you away from this damned outfit.” She told him that she was better off than he was; she wanted none of his help.¹

Martyrdom

Mother [*Charity*] saw the Prophet Joseph Smith in his Nauvoo Legion uniform and told us of Grandfather’s activity in the Legion. He drilled with the other members under the leadership of Joseph Smith. Grandfather was an aide de camp in this organization; his sword is now in possession of one of his great grandsons, Hyrum Barton, of Panguitch.²

Mother also saw the bodies of the Prophet and his brother Hyrum as they lay in state at the Mansion House in Nauvoo after their martyrdom by the ruthless mob in the Carthage Jail. She experienced the gloom and deep sorrow of that sad occasion. Truly all the Latter-day Saints were in deep mourning after that tragic event. Mother said that Grandfather went with the Prophet when he was on his way to Carthage. Grandfather said he never was so loathe to do anything in his life as he was to leave the Prophet when the latter asked those with him to leave him a few miles from the jail and insisted upon going on alone with his arresters.

Mother told me that Grandfather helped buy and care for the body of the Prophet. She said he was gone from home all night, the night after the martyrdom [27 June 1844]; and although he never talked about that night, the family knew that he had been caring for the bodies of Joseph and Hyrum. I once heard Father [*Amos Thornton*] give a sermon in the old Pinto [Utah] Meetinghouse telling of his memories of the martyrdom. He said a messenger was sent to Nauvoo from Carthage with the sad news. He told of the sadness and gloom that settled over the Saints in Nauvoo, giving an impressive picture of it.

Mother was at the meeting of the Saints when the Prophet’s mantle fell on Brigham Young and the people knew that he was to be their leader, not Sidney Rigdon. [*This meeting in Nauvoo took place on 8 August 1844.*]

¹Alexander David Skeen, Caroline’s brother, was born in 1814.

²Addie recorded this story in the late 1930s or early 1940s. John Hyrum Barton, son of Lucy Ann Butler and Joseph Penn Barton, was born in Paragonah, Utah, 24 July 1868; he died in Panguitch, 14 October 1944.

Emmett Company

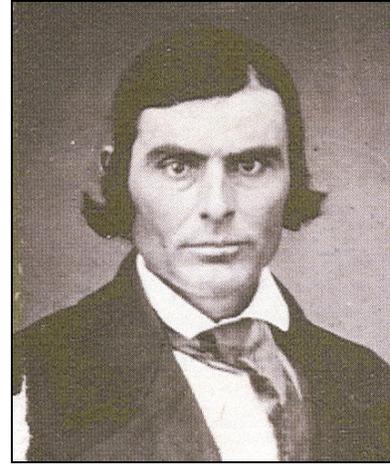
[In late December 1844, John Lowe Butler was called by Brigham Young to take his family to join the renegade Emmett expedition camped up north along the Iowa River, to try to bring some order to that company. John returned without his family to Nauvoo in October 1845; and just before he joined the Nauvoo exodus, he was sealed (on 6 February and early March, respectively) to two older women, Sarah Lancaster (age 39) and her mother Sarah Bryant Lancaster (age 74), perhaps to give them his protection during the exodus. The older Sarah went on to Indiana, and John took the younger Sarah with him to join Caroline and the children in Emmett's company, which was by then at Camp Vermillion.] John had to leave his farm that winter when he fled with the other Saints in the exodus. Throughout his life he maintained it would always belong to him and that he would have it at some future time.

The following incident was told to me by Henry L. Hinman of Canada about 1905 or 1906. He said that his father, Lyman Hinman, and my grandfather were close friends in the States and on one occasion when the Saints were camped on a river [*the Butlers were with the Emmett company, at a point near present-day Albion on the Iowa River*], a resident of that section lost a steer and accused the Mormons of stealing it. A band of men came into the camp. At their approach, most of the men left the camp and kept out of sight. Grandfather and Brother Hinman stayed to meet the band of men and told them that the Saints there had done no wrong. The men said they would have to go to the State Capitol to stand trial. Grandfather and Brother Hinman consented to go on one condition, that the men would not come back to molest their families at the camp. The band of men promised this and led Grandfather and Brother Hinman away, tied with ropes to a wagon. The first night, the band halted in the woods, cut down timber and laid it together in pen form, and put the two men in it for the night. They threw in raw potatoes for Grandfather and Brother Hinman to eat. Grandfather said they were not animals and would not eat raw vegetables. He and Brother Hinman insisted upon being treated like men and demanded a portion of the same food the men had prepared for themselves. This was done. The next morning Grandfather and Brother Hinman observed the men counseling over something. Finally they came and said they had decided to go back to raid the camp. Grandfather stood up on a wagon tongue with a stick in his hand, saying, "You promised us you would not molest our families. I promise you in the name of Israel's God that if you do, either you or I die," and he raised his stick. The band decided to go on, which they did for the two hundred miles to the Capitol.¹ They endured many hardships during this journey. When they came to one of the rivers, Brother Hinman, who was an older man, refused to wade it, as it was very cold and deep enough so that clothing had to be removed. He said, "If I cross that stream, you'll have to carry me across," which they did. When they reached the Capitol and appeared in court, their accusers did not appear. And they were left to make their way back to their families as best they could. When they arrived at the camp they had left, tired and ragged, they found the Emmett company had moved on [*twelve miles*] to another camp. Kind friends had helped Grandmother and her family, but they had suffered many privations in Grandfather's absence and had not known if he would return alive. Grandfather said he felt the hardship had been greater on Brother Hinman than upon himself, since the latter was a much older man. They were most grateful to be back again with their loved ones.

[*There are other interesting versions of this incident. According to John Lowe Butler's account in his Autobiography (see Hartley, p. 407), he had been sent up to the Emmett Company on the Iowa River to "tend to*

¹Albion is only about twenty-five or thirty miles from Iowa City. This arrest occurred on 15 April 1845, and John and Lyman Hinman returned to the Emmett camp on 29 April.

affairs” there. Some of that wayward company had been stealing cattle, and Brigham Young sent John up there to bring some order to the camp. An “Officer of the Justice,” with seventy-five armed men, came into the Emmett camp. The Officer “took several prisoners, myself among the rest.” John relates that he kept his pistol and rifle to defend himself and refused to go with the officer unless he pledged that neither he nor any of his men would come back and raid the camp. By the time they arrived in Iowa City, the officer had begun to realize that the prisoners he had taken were not the guilty thieves and told John that he and the others could go if they liked. John, however, insisted upon a court appearance, where the charges were dismissed; John and the others who had been arrested had to be given provisions to return to their families.



Hosea Stout

Another account of what appears to be this same event is found in the two-volume diary of Hosea Stout, a devout Mormon pioneer and law officer, apparently, in fact, the “Justice” who made the arrests. In his writings of the years between 1846 and 1848, Stout thoroughly castigates Emmett and John Lowe Butler and others “of like stamp.” He writes of the time he had to arrest John Lowe Butler, and Stout’s details, while casting a different light on the affair, certainly fit in with the accounts by John Lowe Butler and Lyman Hinman. Hosea Stout never accepted that Brigham Young had sent John up to put some order to the Emmett Company, nor that John was not guilty of the misbehavior of some in the camp. Later, John Lowe Butler was instrumental in seeing that Hosea Stout himself stood trial before the High Council for misdeeds committed in the arrest; and Hosea was found guilty. This Council Meeting took place, according to Stout’s diary, on Sunday, 21 November 1847.]

Hostage

After joining Emmett’s Company, the Butler family did not follow the old trail but went farther north, to find a new crossing over the river. Winter overtook them when they were in the heart of Indian country [Sioux], so they had to stop and build log cabins and wait until spring. They stopped in a little valley and there was a patch of timber between them and an Indian village. The men began to cut logs and they would bind a bunch of logs together and drag them into camp. The children had great fun riding on the logs. One day a little Indian boy was badly hurt as the logs began to roll, not being bound tightly enough. So the Indian chief told them if the boy died he would take one of the white children to pay for it. Caroline was very sick at the time and they were afraid she was going to die. Their food supplies had run low, and they had nothing but meat to eat, without salt. One day as she lay sick in her tent, with other women trying to help her, the old Indian chieftain came into the tent and asked for the little tow-headed girl (Keziah) who was about twelve or fourteen years old. When she came in, he took her by the hand and led her away to his cabin. Caroline thought that the little Indian boy had died and that the chief had taken Keziah as a ransom. But she was too weak and sick to protest.¹

The old chieftain took Keziah to his cabin and told her that her mother was very ill and that she would die if she did not get something besides meat to eat. He gave her a pan of flour or meal and on top of that he put a bowl of coffee and on top of that a smaller bowl of sugar. He told her to carry them on her head until she got home and to make one biscuit a day for her mother. He told her to be sure to keep it all for her mother and that it would save her life. What joy filled the little

¹Keziah Jane Butler was born in 1836. This incident took place probably while the Butlers were at Camp Vermillion in Sioux Territory, 1846–1847 (see Hartley, Chapter 14).

camp when Keziah came trudging home with her precious load. The instructions were followed and the dear mother returned to health and strength. They never forgot to give thanks to their Heavenly father for all these blessings.¹

Another time, there was trouble with the Indians and they demanded a child as hostage to be returned at sundown if the Saints complied with the demands of the Indians by that time. One of Grandmother's children (cousin Libby Allen Cameron thinks it was Mother [*Charity*]) was held, much to the concern of Grandmother, but she was returned to her family at sundown.

Further Incidents

While the Butlers were with the Emmett company, John Lowe Butler was appointed hunter for the camp as meat was their only food supply. Time and time again, when the kill was sent home, Caroline and her family went without a share, which speaks a great deal for the Saints in Emmett's Company.²

Once when John returned from a mission, he was full of lice, after living with the Indians, so Caroline had to get a whole set of clean clothes for him. The Indians told her to put his clothes on an ant hill and the ants would eat the lice and nits. His clothes were white with nits, but the ants cleaned them up.³

One time while John was away, Caroline, who was in delicate health, and her children lived on wild honey and crab apples for nine weeks; but she was resourceful and they nearly always had something to eat, even when others in the camp went hungry. She used to parch the hard corn and pound it, then put new milk over it for her family to eat. When she had flour, she would make her bread the day before they ate it, so as not to have hot bread. Cold bread lasts longer!

Counting in Sioux

One time, a group of Sioux braves rode up and were talking to the men in the camp, while the children stood a little distance away. Mother [*Charity*] counted for the other children in the Sioux language. When she did this, the braves eyed her keenly and talked among themselves. After they had gone, Grandfather told her never to do that again, as it might lead to trouble. In those days, children were sometimes kidnapped by the Indians. Mother often entertained us by speaking words in the Sioux language.

A Large Buffalo and Two Wild Turkeys

On one occasion, while the Butlers were living in Sioux Territory, the men in the camp went on a hunt to get meat for their families. Grandfather's oldest son, Taylor, was a good marksman. He met with unusual success on this occasion, killing a large buffalo and two wild turkeys. They dragged the

¹John Lowe Butler, in his Autobiography, does not mention the injury of the little Indian boy, but he wrote that one day the Sioux Chief "Henri" came and took one of his little girls. Caroline rose up from her bed in protest and said, "What is he going to do with my child?" Sister Packet, who was there caring for Caroline, went with Keziah to the chief's lodge, and she helped Keziah carry back the flour, sugar, and tea the chief gave them for Caroline, "for it was about as much as she could carry" (see Hartley, pp. 176, 177, 411).

²John Lowe Butler obeyed the assignment given him by Brigham Young to take his family and join the Emmett company; but his writings seem to indicate that he resented the assignment, apparently with good reason.

³It is not clear if the "lice and nit" incident happened after one of the Sioux missions John filled while his family was in Nauvoo, or whether it happened while his family was with the Emmett company.

buffalo into camp with Uncle Taylor astride the buffalo holding a big turkey in each hand and very proud, as any young man would be. The meat was shared by all in the camp.

Sugar Maple

We children liked to hear about how they made maple sugar. Most of the families in the camp had what was called a sugar bush, or a clump of sugar maple trees. In the spring of the year when the sap began to rise in the trees, families would take some of their belongings and camp in the woods and make maple sugar. Trees were tapped by boring a hole in them and a little trough inserted through which the juice would run into a bucket. As many trees were tapped, people were kept busy day and night emptying buckets of juice into a large kettle where it was boiled down and granulated. Then it was poured into smaller vessels to harden into cakes of maple sugar, a great luxury.

Keziah, Charity's sister, related the following sugar maple story. When spring came and the sap began to rise in the trees, the Emmett camp began to make plans to continue their journey. They were in a sugar maple section and they would tap the trees and catch all the syrup they could eat. Night after night, Caroline sat up boiling, boiling and boiling the precious syrup into sugar for her little flock before the camp moved on. By her hard labor, she filled a small trunk full of maple sugar. Emmett came to her and demanded that she divide her sugar with the camp and she refused to do so. So he asked John if he would make his wife mind him: "If you can, make her divide her sugar." John answered, "Well, on that point, Caroline can just suit herself." The rest of the camp could have had sugar if they had worked.¹

Grandmother Squaw

Grandmother was a woman of great faith. One time when she was sick, she told those around her to take her to the river and baptize her and she would get well. An old squaw thought they were going to drown her, and she gave Grandmother an herb that cured her.

During that long winter, this Sioux squaw became very much attached to Grandmother because, the squaw said, Caroline looked like her daughter who had died. She asked Caroline to be a daughter to her. All winter, she kept the little feet of the children covered with Indian moccasins. The family called her Grandmother Squaw.

When spring came, Grandmother Squaw told Caroline not to leave before she could tell her goodbye, but the call came to break camp and Caroline was not able to see the old squaw. The company traveled about ten miles that day, and after they had gone to bed, Caroline heard a moaning noise.² She listened and it seemed to be coming closer and closer. Finally there came the faithful old woman to tell them goodbye. She sat up all night by the low-burning fire and finished a beautiful pair of beaded moccasins for Caroline. In the morning, she gave Caroline a present of a deer pouch or stomach filled with pounded, dried deer meat, and a little bowl of coffee, telling her that just a few spoonfuls of this meat would make a kettle of soup that would save their lives. The old squaw mourned as they pulled away. She had been to them a true friend in need and the Butlers always

¹Another Butler family maple sugar story is found in Hartley, p. 154. The two stories may or may not refer to the same incident.

²It was in May 1846, when the Emmett company left Camp Vermillion (in the territory of the Sioux) to join the Saints at Kaneshville (Council Bluffs); see Hartley, p. 200.

cherished the memory of Grandmother Squaw. Just a few years ago, Aunt Ellen R. Bryner¹ did the temple work for Grandmother Squaw, so beloved by the Butler family.

Crossing the Plains

After leaving the Sioux territory, the family was never very long at one place. They were at Ponca on the Missouri River for a time and at Pottawatomie from 1849 to 1851.² They did not leave with the group of Saints that went to Utah in 1847 because John Lowe Butler was a blacksmith, required to help build and repair wagons, and because his family was not yet equipped for crossing the plains.

Mother related that while the Saints were at Camp Pottawatomie in Iowa (Kanesville), the Indians planned a massacre. A friendly Indian made his way into the camp and warned the Saints of this. They were therefore able to make a peace effort that forestalled trouble.

It was in 1852 that the Butlers finally made the long trek from Kanesville (Council Bluffs) to the Valley with the Eli B. Kelsey Company.³ Grandfather [*John*] drove oxen with one wagon; Grandmother [*Caroline*] drove another; and Mother [*Charity*] and Aunt Sarah Lancaster, Grandfather's third wife, had charge of the third wagon. Later, a homeless young man traveled with the Butler family and their ten children. They suffered from fatigue and hunger as other pioneers did. Mother walked much of the way. When her shoes wore out, the young man traveling with them gave her his "Sunday shoes," which were made of soft fine leather and she was very grateful for them.

Soap Story

To supply her family with soap to wash with, Caroline as usual was ever ready to meet every emergency. She would gather what fat she could from dead animals along the way, with the marrow of the bones, and cook it with water soaked in cottonwood ashes. She kept a barrel of this soft soap in the back of the wagon as they crossed the plains. One day, she made biscuits out of some flour obtained from some emigrants. These were such a treat to the children that Aunt Adeline [*Sarah Adeline*], childlike, kept hers to look at a little longer and accidentally dropped it into the soap barrel. But she fished it out, washed it off, and ate it anyway. There was only one biscuit apiece.

Buffalo

Often large herds of buffalo were seen headed for water, two and sometimes four abreast at a canter, all seeming to step to the same time. If a herd headed toward the pioneer train, the captain would order a halt, hoping to avoid trouble, but sometimes the buffalo came so near that they stampeded. Then there was real trouble. Frightened oxen ran in all directions; some wagons overturned, and it took a lot of labor and patience before the journey could resume.

¹Aunt Ellen R. Bryner is Farozine Ellen Redd, born 1872, the daughter of Lemuel Hardison Redd and Keziah Jane Butler, Charity's sister. Farozine Ellen Redd married Casper Franklin Bryner in 1897. Their daughter Gwendolyn Bryner, who married Donald Schmutz, was a Butler genealogist.

²In the Pottawatomie Indian territory at Kanesville (later called Council Bluffs), John farmed and practiced his "blacksmithing trade" (when he was home; he was frequently sent away on various assignments for the Church). For detail of the Butler activities during the period after Nauvoo, see Hartley, Chapters 8–22.

³The Eli B. Kelsey wagon train left Kanesville (now downtown Council Bluffs), Iowa, near the first of July 1852, with one hundred people in the company. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley on 16 October 1852.

Panther

On one occasion, Mother [*Charity*], considered old enough to walk to the nearby town alone, was sent for some supplies the family needed. The distance, as I remember, was about two miles. Darkness overtook her before she got back to camp. Her parents became uneasy and built a large bonfire as a guide for her to the camp. On her way she had to cross a deep ravine, with a pole laid across it for a bridge. Soon after crossing, she heard a terrifying howl of a wild animal, which seemed very close. She hurried as best she could through the darkness, guided by the bonfire, and she reached her anxious parents in safety. Next morning, her father went along the trail and found the large footprints of a panther [*puma*]. It had followed the child for some distance but stopped when it reached the foot pole. The parents rejoiced that their child reached them unharmed.

Salt Lake Valley

Many useful articles were discarded along the trail by earlier emigrants, when necessity required them to lighten their load. Mother picked up a hardwood rolling pin, which she used all the rest of her life. The children also gathered “buffalo chips” as they walked behind the wagons, to burn in the campfire.

Caroline had one grievance. While she was away from Nauvoo caring for her family [*she was up in Camp Vermillion, John having returned to Nauvoo to report to Brigham Young*], her husband had the chance to get his endowment in the Nauvoo Temple [15 December 1845], and he took his third wife, Aunt Sarah, with him (she never had any children).¹ Caroline always felt bad over this. She never got her endowment until she went to the Endowment House in Salt Lake City [21 August 1855].

After arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, John Lowe Butler was called by Brigham Young to go to Spanish Fork, where he became the first bishop there.²

In Spanish Fork, the Butlers lived first in a little three-sided shanty back of someone’s house. At one time, the baby was sick, and when he smelled meat cooking in the other house, he cried for some of it. Caroline traded a tidy for a little meat for her baby.³

Charity often told her children how the family went to search for segos and other wild roots for food. She said that many times in Utah, she was as hungry at the close of a meal as before, the portions were so small. She told of how corn bread baked in large drippers was cut into equal-sized pieces and very small, because of the size of the Butler family.

Mother and her sister Keziah, the two oldest girls of the family, went with their father to Fort Bridger for two summers where he did blacksmithing, setting tires on old wagon wheels and making other necessary repairs for the gold rushers before they continued their journey west. Often these men had to lighten their loads, and at a minimum cost exchanged valuable merchandise for labor. In this way, Charity and Keziah were able to obtain material for clothing for themselves and the rest of

¹John Lowe Butler received his endowment in the Nauvoo Temple on 15 December 1845. He was sealed to Sarah Lancaster on 6 February 1846. It seems unlikely that Sarah Lancaster would have taken her endowment before she was married, but perhaps it happened as Addie describes above—that Sarah had her endowment the same day that John had his.

²Although John Lowe Butler is known as the first Bishop of Spanish Fork, he was actually the second. Spanish Fork Ward was organized on 21 December 1851, with William Pace, Bishop; John W. Berry, First Counselor; and Loren Roundy, Second Counselor. Bishop Pace was called on a mission to England in 1856, and John Lowe Butler was sustained as Bishop, serving until his death in 1860.

³The baby must have been Thomas, born in 1851, since Addie refers to the baby as “he.”

the family.

Charity later worked in Salt Lake City for J. C. Little, who owned a hotel at Beck's Hot Springs, a few miles north of the City. She had always had good health and a fine physique. Being a good cook, she did her best and was rewarded with a higher wage than girls who worked beside her. While working there, however, she was struck with cramps in her stomach, with pain so severe that she could not speak sometimes for hours. The few doctors in the City were baffled. All through her life, she suffered from cramps.

Being Bishop of Spanish Fork, John Lowe Butler had many Indians come to his home begging for flour, which was a scarce article in those early years. On one occasion, a large strong Indian came for flour and Taylor Butler, the oldest son, said to his father, "Let him work for his bread as we have to do." The angry Indian eyed him keenly. A short time later, when Taylor was in the canyon for a load of wood, the same Indian met him and reminded him of the words he had spoken against the Indians. Taylor was ordered off his load of wood and whipped unmercifully until he could hardly stand. Following this, the Indian and his companions took his lunch, which was in a small sack tied to one of the posts of the wood rack. Then, going back to Taylor, the Indians asked him to shake hands with them, that they would be good friends if he would not talk against them anymore. They helped him onto his load of wood, and wounded and sick as he was so that he could hardly sit up, he made his way home as best he could.

John Lowe Butler rallied to the call from President Young to send teams with provisions to a suffering handcart company on the plains. When the belated handcart emigrants finally reached the Valley, they were distributed among the Saints, where they were welcomed and cared for. Some were sent to the Bishop's home in Spanish Fork. One poor victim, who had had his leg amputated, cried all night from pain in that limb even to the ends of his toes, though the limb was gone.

Mother told us of a visit by President Young to Spanish Fork at a time when there was a great scarcity of food from the grasshoppers and other causes [*probably 1855*]. He promised the sisters if they would glean the wheat fields after the harvest, their children should never want for food. Trusting in the words of their great leader, Grandmother Caroline and other sisters in the Ward gleaned the wheat fields of Spanish Fork until they could not find another head.

The Butlers, with other converts, endured great hardships, but a promise was made to Caroline in a patriarchal blessing by Patriarch John Smith in Nauvoo [*1844*] that the lives of her children should be preserved; and this promise was fulfilled. Though John and Caroline were unsettled from the time they left their home in Kentucky and endured unspeakable hardships through the years, their ten children lived through the trip across the plains, and the last child born in Spanish Fork also survived the early pioneer life.

An incident brought sadness to the hearts of all the family: their faithful oxen drowned in a flood that came down Spanish Fork River. Mother [*Charity*] said their names were Dick and Harry. The loved animals had brought them safely across the plains and Grandmother and the children wept.

Early in life, Charity learned many things from her resourceful mother, among them, the art of weaving. First, the wool from the few sheep kept by the family was sheared by the men. Then she helped her mother wash the wool, which after drying had to be pulled apart and then carded into batts and then rolls, then spun into threads on a spinning wheel, and then woven by hand on the homemade loom in



Home-spun dress

their home. She also knew the shrubs from which different colored dyes could be produced; and using these and the blue dye produced by indigo, she colored the threads and made beautiful cloth. She also helped her mother knit warm stockings for the family, but she was not as fast a knitter as Keziah. Keziah would tell Charity that she would knit her stockings if she, Charity, would sew the dresses for her in return.

[*Note: According to one family story, the dress shown at right was made by Caroline Skeen Butler (1812–1875), but Addie Thornton Duffin wrote in 1940: “I now have in my possession a rare and beautiful old dress given to Caroline (Addie’s half-sister Caroline Monroe Wallace, 1856–1882) by an aged lady from Beaver, a dress that Caroline frequently wore on the stage for her parts” (see Writings of Addie Thornton Duffin, p. 14, 2007 edition). It seems possible that this dress might have belonged to Caroline Monroe Wallace, rather than to her Grandmother Caroline Skeen Butler, for whom she was named.*]

John Lowe Butler survived only a few years of the hardships of pioneering in the Valley, but was an ardent worker all that time. He assisted in surveying lands and in making threshing machines, doing the iron parts while other men did the woodwork. He did blacksmithing for himself and others and took an active part in making the desert “bloom like a rose.” He efficiently performed his duties as Bishop. Many poor immigrants were helped by this generous man and his faithful wife.

Grandmother Butler was loved by the children, and they all idealized their father to an unusual degree. He had a good sense of humor. His daughters remembered his teasing when he would invite them to kiss him with his face all covered with shaving lather.

John Lowe Butler was the first person buried in the cemetery he had dedicated in Spanish Fork.¹ After some of her children married, Grandmother went with her three sons and younger daughters who were early settlers in the little town of Paragonah in Iron County, Utah.

Mother [*Charity*] was retiring in her nature and lived a quiet home life, devoting herself to her



“Caroline’s Dress”

Modeled here by Katherine Jane Duffin Knecht in the home of Ralph and Pat Duffin, Hemet, California, 5 May 1994.

¹John Lowe Butler died on 10 April 1860.

family, whom she dearly loved. She was deeply religious and always attended to her church duties. Temple work was her most absorbing interest and activity outside her family.¹ In 1881 [7 October], the living children of John Lowe Butler, except Thomas, went to the St. George Temple, which was dedicated in 1877, and were sealed to their parents. Kenion Taylor Butler and his wife Olive came from Spanish Fork; Charity with her husband Amos Griswold Thornton went from Pinto; Keziah and her husband Lemuel H. Redd went from Harmony; Adeline Allen² and Phoebe with her husband George Sevy came from Panguitch; John and James Butler came from Richfield with their wives, Franzetta and Lottie [*Charlotte*]; Farozine and her husband James Robinson came from Paragonah. Thomas, the youngest son of the family, whose home was in Richfield and who never married, did not go with this group to the Temple, although he filled two missions, one to the Southern States and one to the New England States; he was a fine man. He chose not to go at this time because he did not have a companion to take with him.³



Charity Artemesia Butler Thornton

The family members remained for several days in St. George to attend to other sealing ordinances and did a good deal of baptismal work and some endowment work for the dead. They were successful in finding at the St. George Temple a record containing many hundreds of names, including many family names that definitely linked Grandfather Butler with some of his forefathers dating back to 1640 in Massachusetts and further. The oldest son of Grandfather, Taylor Butler, hired the clerk of the St. George Temple, Frank Farnsworth, to copy these names into a large record book that became known as the Butler Record. Taylor stayed in St. George on this trip longer than the others in order to have this record completed so that names might be available to the family for temple work. This copying was quite an expense for Uncle Taylor, who was much interested in it. Because of this and other records, the Butler family was one of the earliest to have sufficient genealogy prepared to do extensive temple work.⁴

After the Manti Temple was built [1888], it was more centrally located than the St. George Temple was for family work; and it was decided that all Butler children would meet there once a year and do a week's temple work. This custom was carried on for years, the children usually meeting during the month of June. On one of these occasions, work was done for hundreds of deceased

¹For details on Charity Butler's marriages and children, see *Writings of Addie Thornton Duffin*, Beryl Putnam Duffin Archives.

²Sarah Adeline Butler married Philo Allen in 1857, as his second wife; she later separated from him.

³Caroline Elizabeth Butler, who married George Wilkins, died in 1866; she was sealed to her parents by proxy on this day.

⁴If Addie knew any actual names in this reportedly extensive "Butler Record," except that the record traced back to "Massachusetts in 1640 and further," she left no indication of such knowledge.

relatives. The Butlers were intensely interested in accomplishing this work for the family names, the first of which had been secured in the St. George Temple in 1881. Mother usually went under great difficulties, Pinto being a long way from Manti, but this work and these meetings with her brothers and sisters were dearly regarded by my mother. The first time she went to the Manti Temple, she went to Harmony, where William Redd took her and his mother, Aunt Keziah, by covered wagon (the only way we traveled in those days) to Paragonah. There Aunt Lucy Ann Barton and Farozine Robinson joined the group and Uncle James Robinson took them to Richfield; Aunt Adeline came from Panguitch to join them there, where Uncles James and John Butler took the group on to Manti. The entire trip took at least a week. Aunt Lucy Ann Allred lived in Spring City, near Manti, and she also joined the group.¹ Mother said that sometimes there would be a large number of relatives gathered at these times, and much work was accomplished.

On one of these trips, in 1895, Aunt Adeline Allen, who was by then a widow, met and married a Manti man, John Henry Tuttle. After that, Aunt Adeline lived in Manti very happily and did much temple work for the family. She took the genealogy records secured in the St. George Temple and other places by Uncle Taylor Butler and used this in her work. This record was later used a good deal by Aunt Keziah's grandson, Herbert Redd, who continued to work on it. It is now, I understand, in the temple archives, with other Butler records.²



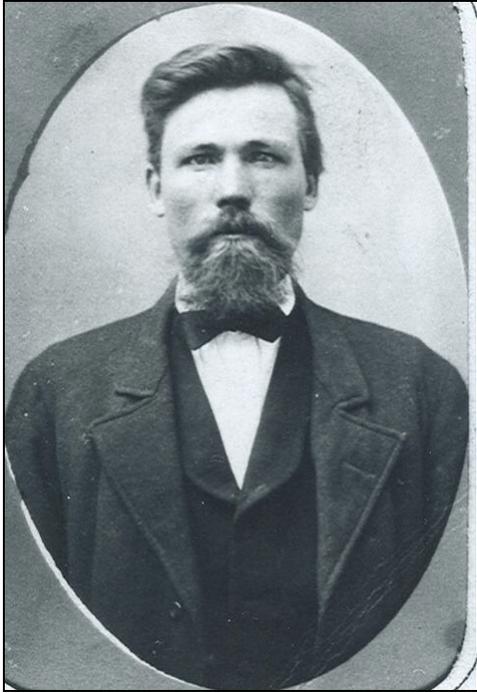
Phoebe Melinda Butler (1837–1892)
Married in 1854, George Washington Sevy



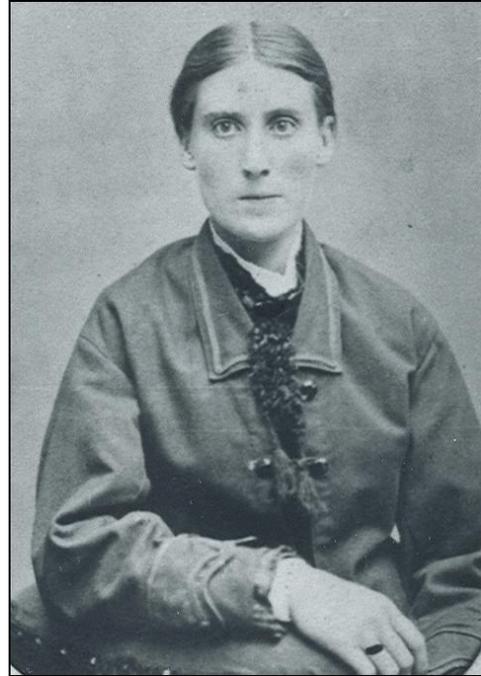
Alveretta Farozine Butler (1854–1940)
Married in 1852, James Coupe Robinson

¹Lucy Ann Butler, born in 1814, was John Lowe Butler's sister. She married in 1836, Reuben Warren Allred. She died in 1884. Since the Manti Temple was not dedicated until 1888, Lucy Ann Allred must have joined the Butlers when they were doing work in the St. George Temple.

²Addie wrote this statement probably in the late 1930s or early 1940s.



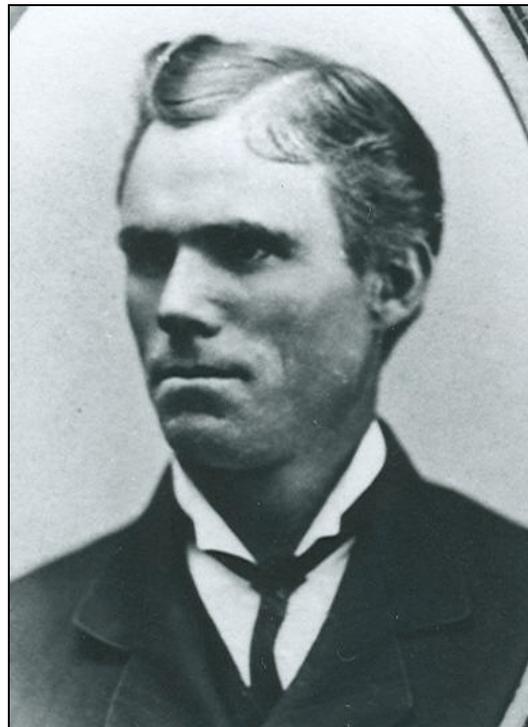
John Lowe Butler II (1844-1898)
Married in 1873, Nancy Franzetta Smith



Nancy Franzetta Smith
Married in 1873, John Lowe Butler II



James Monroe Redd, born 1863
Son of Keziah Butler and Lemuel H. Redd



Thomas Butler (1851-1892)

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