

Life Story of
FRANCETTY BUTLER CHRISTENSEN
1876 – 1959

An autobiographical account of her life and additional information
compiled by her daughter Laurel Christensen Hansen.

TO LAUREL:

A special thank you, and with deep appreciation for the many hours you spent coaxing stories of her life from mother -- and for the many more hours spent in copying and compiling the material and pictures which you have collected through the years.

With love,

YOUR BROTHERS AND
SISTERS

[Note: This version was digitized by Craig L. Dalton in June of 2010. The content remains the same as the original typescript compiled by Laurel Christensen Hansen, however some formatting was changed including page numbers in order to convert from the original genealogy style 14" x 8.5" paper to letter size 8.5" x 11".]

PREFACE

Francetty was the daughter of noble parents. Her father, John Lowe Butler II was born 28 Feb 1844 at Nauvoo, Hancock County, Ill. As a baby he received a blessing under the hands of the Prophet Joseph Smith, who was martyred when John was four months of age. His babyhood and childhood were lived under very hard circumstances, traveling with his family from Nauvoo up on the Iowa River some 200 miles away, and later to Winter Quarters in 1846-47; then they moved to Pottowattamie County, Iowa, to work and earn and get the things needed to take them to Great Salt Lake Valley. In 1852, when John was eight years of age, the family traveled across the plains to Salt Lake City. This young boy helped to herd and drive a herd of some 200 calves across the plains, walking all the way. The family settled in Spanish Fork, Utah.

Francetty's mother was Nancy Franzetta Smith, daughter of John Calvin Lazelle Smith and Sarah Fish -- both parents also were pioneers, leaving Nauvoo a few days after their marriage there and coming across the plains as young bride and groom in 1848. They later settled in Parowan, Iron County, Utah, where John C. L. Smith, her father, was the first Stake President.

(Taken from a story written by Helen T. Dalton – Francetty's sister Caroline's daughter – 7 Oct 1968.)

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I was born 7 April 1876 to John Lowe Butler II and Nancy Franzetta Smith in a little two-room log house on a farm (known as the Butler Brothers Farm) three miles south of Panguitch, Garfield County, Utah, and about 20 miles from Bryce Canyon. (Note: Panguitch: pronounced Pan' gwitch, is an Indian word meaning "fish.") My father and Uncles Jim and Tom were in partnership. They built two log houses with a well between which had an old oaken bucket to draw up the water. The houses had large rock fireplaces. On each side of the fireplaces were high shelves for storage, below were clothes closets with curtains. I was born in the house on the south, as were John, Sarah (Sadie), and Caroline (Carrie). Sister Shakespeare was the midwife. Uncle Jim and Aunt Lottie Butler lived in the other house.

The earliest I can remember is sitting on a table at Aunt Lottie's playing with her crocheting. When she scolded me I threw it down and ran the hook through the palm of my hand. It came out the back of my hand and as Aunt Lottie pulled it out the hook pulled out a cord. I also recall that I bit John T., Aunt Lottie,' s baby, so I got a good bite back and then we both howled.

I recall that when we were making friends with the Indians an old fellow by the name of Pontio came to the house for food. He took me on his lap and I surely let out a scream!

Grandma McGregor raised an orphan Indian girl (Janet) who came to visit my mother on the farm. Two Navajo Indians rode up and wanted Janet to go with them. She was so frightened she tried to hide but they were determined to take her. All of the men were away from home, but mother went out the back and called to John who she pretended was down by a bank Where they had a work shop (called a rookery). When the Indians heard her calling they left in a hurry.

Following is an excerpt from my brother John's history as written by his daughter, Etta:

"John's early childhood was spent at Panguitch, Utah. His father and two uncles, James and Thomas, were working together as the Butler Brothers. They owned a farm by the Panguitch Lake, also were in the sheep business and horse raising, at one time going to California where they purchased one hundred brood mares and a stallion (Prince).

At Panguitch the Butler Brothers owned a summer ranch near the lake; a big farm about three miles from Panguitch on the Sevier River; a lot of horses, and a big band of sheep. They also had a saw mill and shingle mill. They owned a big freight outfit and freighted lumber and shingles to Leeds and other mining camps. John Butler run the sheep, the saw and shingle mills; James run the farm, and Thomas had charge of the horses. They were prosperous at that time. In 1881 they sold their land and some of the horses, dividing up their partnership, and all three moved to Joseph, Sevier Co., Utah, where they bought farms. Thomas still kept part of the horses, and John run sheep for a good many years, till 1892 when he discovered the Carry mine – afterwards incorporated as the Butler-Beck Mining Co. with John L. Butler, Pres. and John Beck as the General Manager -- located on Deer Creek on North Base of Baldy Mountain about 30 miles South and a little West of Richfield."

I recall that the sheep roamed the mountains around the Bryce Canyon area. I also remember when Prince, the stallion, died, the men were feeling very sad as they had paid a big price for him. They dug a hole to bury him, and just as they were about to lower him in, mother

and Aunt Lottie came out with hymn books and sang a funeral hymn in solemn voices. Everyone had a good laugh!

In Joseph we rented a small story-and-a-half log house on the east side of town. Steps on the outside led up to a single room above, and a lean-to kitchen was added on the north. I remember mother once reached for what she thought was some braid on a high shelf, and it turned out to be a snake! Mother had a four-poster bed with ropes running up and down and across for springs with a straw tick over it. Sadie and I had a trundle bed on casters and, in the daytime, it was rolled under mother's bed which was closed in on all sides with a curtain.

Father bought a larger home in Joseph where I attended one year of school with Mrs. Maggie Parker as my teacher. I also attended school at Mrs. Bland's house, and also was taught by Haley Bell in Elsinore. Papa hired a Mr. Riley to install new steps, and when we had dinner he filled his plate with potatoes and covered them with molasses! He really smacked his lips over that!

That year we children had chicken pox, measles and scarlet fever. It is believed now that I had a little case of polio as my leg went lame and I walked on crutches for quite a while. My leg was never completely well.

I remember having a loose tooth and papa taking me to Uncle Andrew Ross' store where there were forceps. They said if I was good and had my tooth pulled I could have anything I wanted in the store. Out of all the nice things to choose from, I took a cute lacy bib for my baby brother Horace.

While living in Panguitch father had been struck over the head with a heavy board by a drunk man at a dance) and had headaches for years. When I was seven years old father sold out in Joseph and we went to live on Uncle Tom's farm in Brooklyn while father went to Salt Lake City to have an operation. The doctor removed a piece of skull as large as a dime which had been pressing on his brain.

We had a hard winter that year. Caroline became very ill and we were out of wood. John, Sadie and I went to the hills to get some. John was then nine or ten years old. It was dark when we came from the hills with a nice little load of wood, and we were singing "Our little dog is gone, with his tail cut short and his ears cut long, bow wow, bow wow." A man rode up to us and asked who we were. We told him about father being gone, and that Caroline was very ill. The next day a nice load of cut wood was delivered to us and a nurse brought from town for Caroline. Everyone was so good!!

One night Uncle Tom came in all excited and strapped on his gun. Mother asked him what was going on and he said "Horse thieves!" as he ran out the door. We heard some shots and Uncle Tom came back with the horses. He said he thought he had hit the thief. Next day we learned that a man had gone to a lady on the edge of town and asked her to bandage his right hand told her his gun went off accidentally.

As youngsters, when we were ill we thought if we wrapped a certain cloak around us we would get well. Following is an account of this cloak or cape written by brother John's wife, Bertha:

"When my husband's (John Lowe Butler III) grandfather (John Lowe Butler I) joined the Church in 1835 he soon joined with the main body of the Church and went through the trials of that time. He was closely associated with the Prophet Joseph Smith and lived about two blocks from his home in Nauvoo, Illinois. John Lowe Butler I was one of the Prophet's body guards and was with him as he (the Prophet) took the last journey to Carthage, only turning back at the Prophet's request.

"During the time when there was much sickness among the people the Prophet went among them administering to them and they were healed. It is known that he blessed articles that could be used by others in healing and blessing the sick and afflicted.

"John Lowe Butler I had a large broadcloth cape, or. cloak, that had been blessed by the Prophet Joseph Smith, and his son, John Lowe Butler II, came into possession of it. The family would often put it around an afflicted person and through their faith in the blessing of the cape they were made better.

"Last month I took it (the piece of cape) to a Daughter of Utah Pioneers meeting to exhibit it and tell something about it. About two weeks later I met Sister Barrus on my way to the Temple. She wanted to tell me her experience. She was at the DUP meeting and not feeling well, and when I told about the blessing of healing that had been placed upon the cape by the Prophet, she was so eager to take hold of it and felt that it would have the same power with it now. She said when she touched it there was a great thrill went all through her body. She gave testimony that this piece of cape really carried healing powers with it -- she felt the power go through her system and has been better since that time. This experience has been worth something to me and I am sure I will value more fully this article with a Prophet's blessing. (Written in the personal hand of Bertha M. (Thurber) Butler on 5 June 1941.)"

Caroline remembered being wrapped in the cloak when she was so ill and felt that it was a great help. It was finally cut into pieces and given to each of father's children, including those of his second wife.

When father was well from his operation we moved to Richfield (1884) where I attended district school and also one year at the Academy. I was baptized in the old mill race in the south part of Richfield by Thomas Ogden, and confirmed by Simon Christensen on 3 March 1885. We moved back to Joseph in 1885.

While living in Joseph I had some frightening experiences. One time I had to go to the Elsinore store with a bucket of eggs on a big bay horse which was afraid of Indians. When I came out of the store to go home the horse was about to break his rope he was so excited at seeing some Indians. Several men untied the horse and tried to calm him, and I had them hold him until I got on with my bucket of groceries. They didn't want me to go for fear I would falloff, but I left anyway, and surely had a fast ride side saddle until we were past sight of the Indians.

Another frightening experience was when a horse nearly kicked me in the face. And still another was when a bull chased me to a flume and I had to stay there an hour until he went away. The bull was a registered Holstein (Janwitt). He was one of three Holsteins first brought into Sevier Valley. The bull that Mr. Staples bought killed him. Andrew Ross got one that was so mean he broke off his horns in a fight and Andrew had to get rid of him. Janwitt was so vicious that papa sold him, and it seems to me he finally had to be destroyed.

Sadie and I raised dogy lambs one summer. We sold them to an Elsinore man for a little yellow mare. She was a real beauty! An old man by the name of Shock Behunin owned a little spot of land adjoining ours. He was somewhat mentally retarded, and claimed our land. In order to get rid of him we gave him our little mare and a little burro in exchange for his land. He had a team now and was happy -- he could go any place he wanted with his little light wagon and his "team."

My chores on the farm were varied -- one summer I milked six cows night and morning. I also helped haul hay and wood, drove team while father plowed, and the usual chores on a farm. I also helped mama sew clothes for my brothers and sisters. I attended Church in Joseph and

Elsinore. During my girlhood I was active in Sunday School, Primary and Mutual. I remember a song Sister Broadbent taught us to sing at a special meeting – “Our lamps are trimmed, we left this earth to meet Him in the sky.” (I'm sure I was a good singer then. Ha!) Anyway, everyone laughed when we sang it! I participated in activities as much as my health would permit.

When I was 14 papa was arrested for living in polygamy and served six months in the penitentiary. When I was 15 I stayed a few months in Parowan, with Grandmother McGregor.

When I was 16, Sadie and I cooked for 30 men at the Butler-Beck mine. Father was the president. Mother had had a dream that she saw a dove sitting on a rock and that rich ore was there. So in 1891 when father was with the sheep and saw a dove sitting on a big rock, he did some prospecting and found rich ore. The mine was incorporated as the Butler-Beck Mining Co. in 1893 -- it was located in Deer Creek Canyon. A mill was installed and they shipped ore for a while, but found that the mill was not suitable for that kind of ore, so they went out of business. As I recall, the vein of ore shifted and could not be found again.

One afternoon while at the Butler-Beck mine Sadie and I went horseback riding on a flat down in the canyon. Suddenly a herd of wild cattle came thundering down the hill. We hurried back to the cabin and found that a big cougar had come down the hill, running between Mrs. Pugmire and her baby who was sitting in a high chair, and had also frightened the cattle. We saw the cougar tracks they were huge! One night we heard heavy footsteps on the roof and the next morning saw cougar tracks around the house.

While cooking at the mine we had to hang our meat in a tree until ready to use it. I went out to get a big piece (probably a quarter) and it was too heavy for me. When I got it off the hook the weight of it hurt my back and I suffered from it most of my life. I was never very strong after that.

Papa was quite a joker. One day he came in the house all stooped over with his hand on his side) groaning. I asked him what was the matter, and he replied "I got shot!" I let out a scream and made him sit down. With a twinkle in his eyes he held out: a few lead shot in his hand!

In 1893 we returned to Richfield and rented a house at 5th South and 2nd West until we found a home to buy at 4th South and 4th West. I was 17 years old. Papa had a herd of sheep near Jericho, just east of Joseph, so he homesteaded there. We lived at Richfield during the winter and Jericho in the summer.

Summers on the farm were the most exciting years of my girlhood. Sadie and I were swimming in the Sevier River one day. I went too close to a whirlpool and was pulled into it. Sadie tried to pull me out but was swept into it herself. Both of us very nearly drowned before Sadie reached a willow and pulled us both out. A very narrow escape!

Papa would bring his sheep to the ranch to be sheared. One time he was short of help and had to have lumber from Richfield for shearing tables, so he asked me to go to Richfield that day, load up with lumber, and come back the next day. He had arranged for the lumber to be loaded for me. I drove a team which was quite gentle, but very much afraid of Indians. When I passed Elsinore on my way to Richfield and crossed the canal, there were some Indians. The horses snorted and started to run up toward the hill. The spring seat bounced down into the bottom of the wagon, and I fell down with it but still hung onto the lines. The Indians could see the horses were afraid of them so they ran and hid behind rocks, and I was able to return to the road and safely reach my destination.

When I reached Richfield, Aunt Sarah was having a party for the children. Claud Baker's billy goat got loose and came to the party. He went right into the middle of it, and was bunting kids on all sides. Aunt Sarah and I caught him by the horns and held him while the children ran into the house. We really had a struggle to get into the house ourselves without the goat!

There were all kinds of snakes in Jericho -- rattlers, blow, blue racers and water snakes. Frank Spencer lived with us two summers. He teased a blow snake by throwing dirt on it and it raised up and blew in his face. Frank almost died of the poison. The blue racers would steal our eggs -- take them in their mouths and go. I was wading in the warm springs and stepped on a water snake which promptly bit my foot, and can remember of killing at least three rattlers which came out from under the house.

I attended a dance in Elsinore one evening and was asked to dance by a young Mr. Barney whom I didn't care for, and I declined the invitation. The young man became quite upset and demanding when my brother, John, came over and they walked outside together for a little talk. Later, the young man came to me and said, in his peculiar drawl, "You don't have to dance with me -- I've made different arrangements with your brother."

When I was 17, Sadie and I spent a few weeks at Panguitch, and went to the Lake for the 24th of July. Sadie went with George Davis and I went with Jim Thornton. When we came out of the dance, a drunk man stabbed George twice before discovering he was stabbing the wrong man. Jim Thornton took me home and went back to the saloon to wait for his bedfellow. A Mr. Fjelsted was drunk and asked an Indian if he could shoot him in the eye. The Indian just laughed -- so Fjelsted shot him in the eye. He fell over on Thornton and filled his pocket with blood. Fjelsted went to the penitentiary for life for this little prank.

The Butler Beck mine closed down in 1894 and the company hired father and mother to take care of the property that summer. The folks took a few cows up to the mine and really lived good with a lot of milk, butter and cheese, and cream to go with the wild strawberries which were abundant there. Also, plenty of fish were to be caught in the big creek. The younger children and John went with the folks. I stayed at our home where I earned a livelihood by sewing for Printha Christensen. When she married, I sewed with Mrs. Moore, and a little later for Lizzie Young. Then I took in sewing at home.

After the mines were sold in 1896, brother John went to work in the mines in Eureka. While there, an epidemic of typhoid fever broke out. John contracted the disease and was sent to his home in Richfield. The family was still at the mine so Caroline and I cared for him until he was able to return.

When I was 18 I became acquainted with a Danishman, John Christensen. A year later he courted me. He took me up to the mine to visit the folks and spend the weekend. He caught his very first fish there and really enjoyed that trip.

John had one of the first livery stables in Richfield. In 1887 he opened a blacksmith shop which was on the same spot that our hardware store is on now. He hired Joe L. Christensen to run it. In 1888 he added a room for a few hardware items and an office. In 1897 this building was moved to the back of the lot and used as a granary. (It has now been moved to Main Street, and is known as "The Original." It is on the Utah Register as a Utah Historical Site.) A new store 20' x 30' was built the same year -- the first hardware store in Southern Utah -- and was known as Richfield Hardware Co. until 1904. I remember how John put his thumbs under his arms and told me, "I am a business man now!" That store was soon too small and he added 12 or 15 feet. As I remember John added to the store two different times. The boys have remodeled again. (In 1903 father broke ground for a new hardware store to surround the old one. In 1904 the new store was built -- known as John Christensen Co. The building was remodeled and enlarged in 1952 and again in 1961.)

On the 4th of July 1898 I was Goddess of Liberty in the old willow bowery north of the Academy Hall. I remember a child (Lara Bean) representing Cuba with chains on her wrists, kneeling in front of me pleading for her independence, at which point I said "Cuba is - and shall be free!"

After John had courted me a short while we planned to marry. When we heard the Manti Temple was going to close for repairs we had to take the step then or wait for some months. Within a week after the news of the temple closing was received, John and I journeyed to Manti in a big white-top buggy, and were married 21 July 1898. The trip and honeymoon lasted three days -- one day to Manti, one day to marry, and one day to return to Richfield. We had been married three or four days when John introduced me as "Miss Butler!" To this happy union were born eight children -- four boys and four girls. One boy, Don Butler, died at the age of one month, but to date all other children are living.

John and I moved into a two room house with a lean-to kitchen (making a few additions through the years). All eight children were born here. Sister Annie Thurber was midwife for the first three babies, Uncle Joseph McGregor, M.D., brought Arlo and Dan, and the last three (the "three little girls") were assisted to this life by Dr. T. R. Gledhill.

John and I never lived alone. Heber, John's brother, worked in the store and lived with us for about a year until he got a job in the J. M. Peterson store. Orson, another brother, then worked in the store and lived with us. When Joe L. Christensen left to start his own blacksmith shop, John's brother, Will, was hired to run the shop and he lived with us. When John was called to his second mission in 1903 he sold the livery stable and blacksmith shop and hired his brother, Chris, to help Orson in the store. Will then went into the carpentry business.

On 20 Feb 1901 I received my Patriarchal Blessing from Patriarch Joseph S. Horne.

I was expecting a baby when John was called to his second mission in 1903, so he was given a one-year extension. The baby, Don Butler, was born 6 Mar 1904 and died of whooping cough 7 Apr 1904 -- a very sad time. (Mother had written in her record book that Don was born at 5:30 p.m., weighing 11 pounds. He was blessed 31 Mar 1904 by his grandfather, Hans Christensen.) We had planned to build a new home, but instead built an addition to the little home, taking off the lean-to kitchen. John voted and then left for his Mission 8 Nov 1904.

My sister, Carrie, and her husband, Erin Thurber, lived in the front of our home for a year. When Chris came down with smallpox it was necessary for me to help Orson in the store, so Carrie would care for Erma and Omar while I helped out. The store had free delivery service, and I remember that I preferred doing the deliveries in the livery wagon rather than stay in the store alone.

Omar took pneumonia and was very ill -- nearly died. A black shadow hovered over him and hit me in the back so hard it knocked my breath out. We had him administered to and the shadow went away. (Erma remembers sitting on the bed holding vinegar pads to Omar's nose so he could breathe while mother could do other things that needed to be done.) (Note: Omar really chuckled when he read "vinegar pads" -- he said they were brandy pads. It seems father kept a bottle of brandy on the shelf for medicinal purposes.) Omar later got measles and was very ill again.

John returned from his mission in December 1906. In the spring of 1908 we took Erma, Omar and Arlo on the train to Camas Prairie (Manard, Idaho) to visit with my mother and brothers and sisters. Sadie and Gomer and their family joined us in Salt Lake and went with us. We all had a wonderful visit. Taylor, my brother, was a big strong young man and afraid of nothing. Someone offered him \$5 to ride an especially mean bronco and he was ready to ride it when I heard of it. I ran across the fields waving a \$5 bill and calling that I'd pay him \$5 if he would not ride -- Sadie and half a dozen kids running after me. During that trip Arlo fell into a water trough back of the barn and nearly drowned before Omar John saw him and pulled him out.

We lived in the Third Ward. I was a Relief Society visiting teacher until a large piece of coal from the coal bin rolled onto my foot and broke some bones. When I was able to walk a

little I went to PTA with John, tripped and fell on the stairs, and threw my knee cap out of place. The doctor said it would always be out of place unless I had a dangerous operation which might leave the knee stiff. As a result I have since then had a "touchy" knee.

John was superintendent of the Sunday School in 1910 when he was called as second counselor to President Robert D. Young in the Sevier Stake Presidency. I was in bed with a new baby, Beth, when John came and told me about his new assignment. We were privileged to entertain many apostles and general authorities in our home during the nineteen and a half years that John served in that position. (Erma remembered that mother cried when she heard the news - I guess we will never know whether it was because she was so pleased for father or whether she felt completely overwhelmed at carrying the responsibility as wife of a member of the stake presidency, what with having a new baby and four other children to care for, and the fact that she felt very inadequate. However, she rose to the challenge and performed her duties with dignity and grace.)

My brother, Lee, lived with us and went to school for two years. My sister, Jane, lived with us and worked two different times. My sister, Eva, also stayed with us for a while. (This was in the old home.) My sister, Olive, and family visited us for a short while in our new home. Her baby, Helen, was born there.

In 1914 I was pregnant with Mae and was very ill. My skin was yellow as saffron and I was losing five pounds every month. My brother, John, had a serious accident. He went to Salt Lake on 2 Dec 1914 and spent some time there under treatment. Then he was advised to go to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and have a very serious operation on his bladder. John hesitated to go as he was told that he had only a 35% chance to live through it -- and only one-half of those recovered. I went to Salt Lake to see John before he left for Rochester as I was sure he would never live. While there Sadie and Gomer took me to a chiropractor who did me the world of good. I came home and not only stopped losing weight, but gained five pounds. My color had changed completely. (Erma said mother told her she had made out all papers and made all preparations to die because there was no hope for her to live.) Mae was born a blue baby on 28 Dec 1914 and we both survived. Mae was raised on Eagle Brand Condensed Milk, and to date is strong and healthy. My brother, John, had his surgery in January 1914, and lived until 1 July 1937.

Since going to the chiropractor in Salt Lake, I had treatments from Dr. Ramsay and Dr. Spurrier, chiropractors in Richfield, at different times for many years. The treatments helped my back.

We built our new brick home and moved into it in the fall of 1915. Mae was not quite a year old -- and the first thing she did was roll downstairs in her walker.

John had the second big car in Richfield, a J. L. Case. When the salesman came to the store to get John and drive him down to the house to show me, there were 21 children in it -- all the kids on Main Street saw the car and climbed in! Later, brother J. M. Peterson, who was a counselor with John in the stake presidency, bought a car. We all went to Elsinore for conference. Lou (Sister Peterson) and I had babies and couldn't stay for the evening meeting so J. M. took us home. Next day I told John that J. M. went 40 miles an hour, and John said he would never let me go with him again if he drove like that! That was speeding!

In 1914 I had my teeth drawn and wore dentures. In 1931 I was having trouble with my gums so went to a doctor in Salt Lake. X-rays showed four roots had been left in the jaw bone and I had tuberculosis of the bone, so the bone had to be cut away and cleaned.

After World War I we built a cabin in Fish Lake and had many happy times there. John and I loved to fish and since there were no boat motors at that time, someone had to do the heavy work, so the children rowed while we fished. (Laurel said she had as much fun rowing as mother

did fishing. Mom had a very soft voice and every time she snagged a fish she would give a dainty little squeal!)

Several fruit trees grew on our lot. I couldn't see the fruit go to waste so gave much of it away, and also dried much of it. The year of the flu epidemic (1918) I really made good use of the plums -- I carried sweet-soup to many people down with the flu. Some called for more -- said that was the only thing they could eat.

Erin Thurber, my sister Caroline's husband, died in 1920. I went to the funeral at Boise, Idaho, and stayed a month with Carrie because I felt she needed someone with her.

From Helen T. Dalton, eldest of the five children left when Erin died:

"I have a memory of my mother's eldest sister, my Aunt 'Zettie,' which I would like to add. We have always lived here in Boise, Idaho, while Aunt Zettie was one who married and remained in Richfield. So we have always lived so very far away and therefore as we children were growing up we did not have very close contact with Aunt Zettie and her family; however, whenever I think of Aunt Zettie and her good husband, John Christensen, I have a very soft spot in my heart for them.

"My father, Isaac Erin Thurber, died here in Boise 14 March 1920, leaving my mother with us five children. the outlook for our little family was rather lean. Well, we had no washing machine -- my mother washed clothes in galvanized tubs with a scrubbing board and boiled them in a boiler on top of the stove. To our amazement here came a washing machine, shipped from Richfield, Utah, from Uncle John and Aunt Zettie! I shall never forget that -- and the kindness of these dear people. The washing machine had a stick on the side which we just pushed back and forth to wash the clothes. It was wonderful, and so much easier.

". Your husband was a good man, nothing could have helped us more."

From a letter to Erma from Edith, Uncle John's daughter:

"I remember how very much father loved his sister, Zettie, He had told us many lovely things about her, but one that stands out in my memory was when, on rare occasions, they received candy, it was divided among the children -- but Zettie always hoarded hers, and then shared it with her brother and sisters after theirs was gone. I remember the lovely birthday and Christmas cards she sent when we were on Camas Prairie. Also, her love and kindness to father in later years when he had such financial burdens." (Ross, Edith's brother, has told us how very much they appreciated their Uncle John's and Aunt Zettie's kindness to them.)

John was ill all during 1929. The doctors in Richfield did their best to find the trouble but he became no better. He was then examined at the Salt Lake Clinic, and was told that he had cancer of the stomach -- they would not operate because the disease had progressed too far. As a last resort I took him to a doctor in Cedar City who claimed that he had a cure for cancer. John seemed to respond to the treatment -- at least he was made more comfortable -- but because he had been ill so long his heart gave out, and he died 15 January 1930. This left me with a family of six children -- Omar John being the only one married. Erma was teaching in high school; Arlo had just returned from his mission to Holland and he went on to the BYU for one year; Dan had completed two years at the BYU and was then called to a mission in Australia; Beth had completed one year at the BYU and went to Salt Lake to find work; Laurel was a junior and Mae a freshman in high school. (This was during the depression banks and businesses had closed and it was a struggle for mother to keep things going. However, she financed two years eight months

of missionary work and three more years of college for members of the family after father's death.)

(Father had been instrumental in the building of the new tabernacle. As chairman of the building committee he had spent many hours on the project, even though he was in poor health. His was the first funeral in the new building which was dedicated several years later. At that time mother wrote to Erma and Wendell as follows:)

"Dearest Erma and Wendell -- and my darling babies.

"Today has been such a lovely day that I must write you a few lines about it before I go to bed.

"President Grant came down last night and this morning at ten he attended a meeting in the Cove where he dedicated their church. Then at noon the old and new stake presidencies and wives (I was also invited) had dinner at President Poulsen's, then went to the Tabernacle at one where meeting was held and the Tabernacle was dedicated. Then the Seminary was dedicated at three.

"I wish all of my family could have been there and heard the beautiful tributes paid your father. Also enjoyed the marvelous influence. Well, I was so full of joy and sorrow that I got started to cry (after Dan left tonight, of course. I don't cry before people.) Now that is over I will write you about it. But can't half express my real feelings.

"The tabernacle held 1210 people today, every bit of extra space was filled with standing people. The Tabernacle is fully paid for now and it has cost \$120,000 complete - - furnishings, and the lawns and shrubs.

"To hear President Poulsen, President Young, and Brother Seegmiller who read a full account of the Tabernacle from the beginning, you would think that father was the main one, that he did more work and furnished good and well his share of the money. They all said he was largely responsible for the house being built.

"President Young was also praised for the long hours he put in on the building but more especially on the grounds.

"At dinner President Grant said that he and Brother Smith picked up two boys when they were coming down here. President Grant asked them if they were Mormons, and they sort of hesitated, then said 'Yes.' He said 'Do you know me?' and they said 'No.' He said 'I am the President of the Church,' and they said, 'Oh, are you President Roosevelt?' They got quite a kick out of it. President Grant surely keeps up well, he has such a good strong voice."

I had poor health for several years and in May 1940 was rushed to the hospital, almost gone I was so low, and an operation was performed. The doctor found obstruction of the bowels and gallstones, and had to take out three feet of intestines which had developed peritonitis. There wasn't time to remove the gall bladder so they opened it up and took out a handful of stones. I had a drain tube in my side for a year after. (Laurel remembers Velta, Omar John's wife, a registered nurse, coming out of the operating room and telling her and Dan that she didn't think mother would survive. But mother did survive, and Velta took very good care of her while she was in the hospital and also when she needed care at home.)

(Velta had also done much to make father comfortable during his illness and he mentioned more than once how very much he appreciated her.)

My eyes had been failing for some time due to cataracts. In 1952 I went to a Salt Lake hospital and had the cataract removed from one eye. The operation was a success and now I am

able to see much with the one eye, although the other eye is blind from cataract. (Laurel said mother decided to have just the one eye operated on and that she would not have the other one done unless something happened to the good eye.)

I have a strong testimony of the gospel and during my married life worked faithfully in the Relief Society and contributed willingly to all organizations. I have accomplished much temple work for the dead. Due to injuries and illnesses I was not able to do as much as I would have liked. I have contributed to and am very much interested in our genealogy work and have asked Laurel to see that the work is carried out.

(Laurel remembers mother's last illness. Erma came from Salt Lake and cared for her for four months. Mother was in the hospital a month and then brought home -- she felt she was going to die and wanted to be at home. She had been lonesome for "John" for 29 years. She talked much about father, always referring to him as "John" -- and wondered if he had forgotten her "it has been such a long time." On 27 September 1959 she died peacefully in her sleep with no pain -- just wore out. She was 83. Many beautiful tributes were paid to her at the funeral service. She was dearly loved by her family for her many attributes, her beautiful spirit, and for being a loving and kind mother.)

(The information for this story was taken from Mother's notebook, from letters, and from narration to Laurel.)

* * * * *

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND FRANCETTY

| | <u>Born</u> | <u>Married</u> |
|------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Erma | 14 May 1899 | Alfred Wendell Osmond |
| Omar John | 8 Nov. 1901 | Velta Sevy (Divorced) |
| | | Julia Weber |
| Don Butler | 6 March 1904 | Died 7 April 1904 |
| Arlo "L" | 10 July 1905 | Maxine Nielson |
| Dan Smith | 14 July 1908 | Lois Roberts |
| Beth | 12 Sept. 1910 | Kenneth Riley Judd |
| Laurel | 22 Dec. 1912 | Howard Leon Hansen |
| Mae | 28 Dec. 1914 | Stephen Love Dunford |

All children were born in Richfield, Sevier Co., Utah

SOME THOUGHTS FROM HER CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN

1. We had many wonderful home nights around the dining room table with a fire in the fireplace in the winter. Flinch was a favorite card game and mother loved to play -- she won most of the time, too! She had such a quiet voice that she didn't shout "Flinch" all that loud, but she'd get so excited she would shake all over.
2. Mother's life during that period of almost twenty years when father was in the stake presidency and at the same time keeping up with his business interests must have required great patience. How difficult it must have been for her, with father gone so much of the time and with seven children to cope with. Her many health problems she suffered silently, and always kept a lovely, clean, well ordered home for her family, the general authorities who visited, and our relatives and friends -- all of whom were welcome and to all mother was a gracious hostess.
3. Mother enjoyed the days when the relatives visited back and forth, especially at Christmas time. She was remembered for the delicious homemade root beer and fruit cake she always served. She always enjoyed having the family together for a missionary farewell dinner or some other special event. Our dining room table, when extended, could seat twenty people, and very often did!
4. Mother had great concern and compassion for the handicapped especially for Laura Peterson, her friend and across-the-street neighbor. Laura had rickets as a child and had to use crutches the rest of her life. When Laura's parents died, and she retired from the telephone company and was home alone, mother was especially thoughtful. Laurel remembers going over to Laura's many times to see if she needed any errands done, and mother herself kept in close touch. The day after mother died, Laura told her nieces she was going to die (she was then in a nursing home) -- that Mrs. Christensen was waiting for her. She died that day.
5. Many "tramps" came to our house. Mother never turned any of them away without food. Those who looked a little rough she had wait on the porch for their food, but her heart went out to the younger ones -- they were not "tramps" to her but someone's sons. These she brought into the kitchen for a good hot meal.
6. The Indians must have marked mother's house as a good place for a handout. She had great compassion for them, and they never left without a freshly baked loaf of bread (or something equally nourishing) to put in their flour sacks. Laurel especially remembered Rosie who liked to have flour in her flour sack. Erma and Omar remembered Jane who was always very friendly. Both Jane and Rosie used the greeting "tik-a-boo" which means "true friend."
7. Mother's grandchildren were all very special to her -- she loved them dearly. And the grandchildren loved her dearly. Some of them remember the little birds she drew for them, and the little poems she had memorized and shared with them. Some remember her love of flowers and especially the row of beautiful sweetpeas along the fence, and the bouquets of sweetpeas and baby's breath which she kept in the house so much of the time, and also gave many away. All of her flowers were beautiful and she took great pride in them. In a letter to her mother dated 6 July 1906 she wrote about her beautiful climbing rose. She wrote that

dozens of people came to see it -- some to swipe. She also mentioned that she had the prettiest sweetpeas in town. During the two weeks before she wrote she had picked all of fifty bouquets. She had tucked a dried rose in her letter.

8. Mother was a professional seamstress and milliner before and for a short time after she was married, so always did a lot of sewing for her children. Erma also was a good seamstress and did much to help out. Laurel remembers that she was in junior high before she had a "store bought" dress.
9. Mother's patience is to be commended. Whether it was nursing us through a sick spell (sometimes several of us at a time), teaching us to sew, or knit and crochet, putting up with our "growing pains," bearing up under our many and varied music lessons -- or whatever -- she rarely seemed to become impatient. Beth remembers one of her early disciplinary methods was taking a very thin switch and tingling our legs. It didn't hurt the legs much but was a great blow to the feelings!
10. Mother was always generous with her time and means. She helped financially and other ways her brothers and sisters and families, and her widowed mother, all of whom she loved dearly.
11. Laurel found a poem among Mother's papers after she died that made us realize how very lonely she must have been, especially after her children left home:

LONELINESS

Alone, and in the loneliness I see the loneliness of
others.
It may be they are sensing, too, within each silent
heart the walls eternal, locking us apart.
We share our tears, our happiness, our fears, and
yet remain alone through all these years,
Each treads a private world, on courses separate,
alone.

(The poem was not finished -- this was all she had written.)

This could possibly have been the inspiration for her frequent telephone calls to her widowed friends.

12. Laurel found a paper among mother's belongings which she had read in H.I.Ao in 1895. This seems to have been one of her guides for living this life:

HOME MEMORIES

"We are all making our today the memories of our tomorrows. Whether these shall be pleasant or painful to contemplate depends on whether we are living well or ill.

"Memory writes down everything where we shall be compelled to see it, perpetually. There have been authors who in their last days would have given worlds to get back the words they had written. There have been men and women who would have given their right hand to blot out the memories of certain passages in their lives, certain acts done, certain words sent forth to scatter sin or sorrow.

"On the other hand, there are memories that shed a perpetual benediction. There have been artists whose eyes looked in old age upon the pictures they had painted, finding rare pleasure in the contemplation of the lovely things they had made, and there are hearts that are picture galleries filled with memories of lives of sweetness, purity and unselfishness.

"We are each preparing for ourselves the house our souls must live in the years to come. May God help every one of us to live at home so tenderly, so unselfishly, so lovingly, that the memories we make within our own doors shall be our own holiest requiem, on the breath of which our spirits may be wafted away to glory in the home in our Father's House."

* * * * *

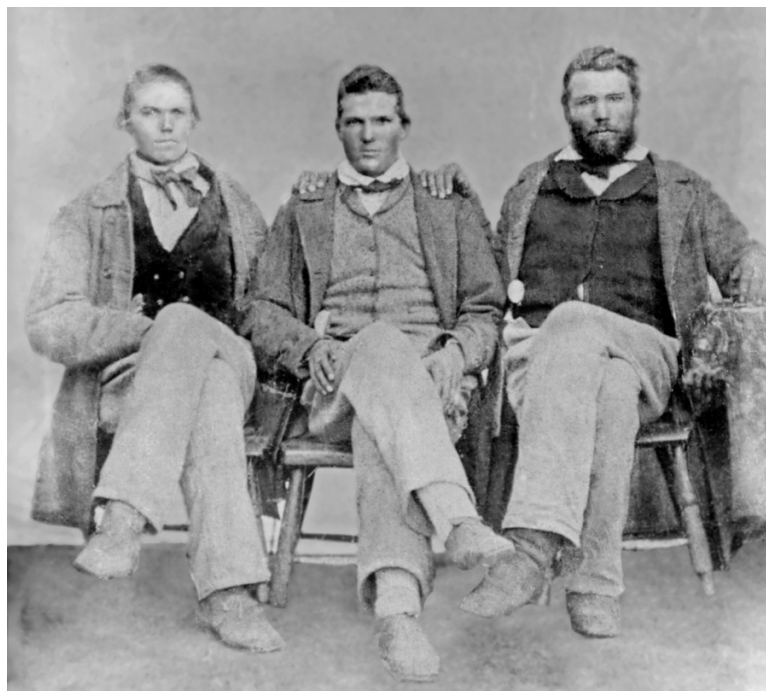
PHOTOS and DOCUMENTS



John Butler, age 7
"Sadie" Butler, age 3
Francetty Butler, age 5



Francetty Butler about 18 years



Tom, Jim, and John Butler



First home in Joseph, Utah



This home was at 4th West and 4th South, Richfield. It was made of red adobe bricks. The family moved here, buying this place in 1885. The following children were born in this home: Jane, Kenion Taylor, Eva, Leland Thomas Butler. The father John Lowe Butler, died in this home 30 December, 1898 at the age of 54. Jane Butler Nielson felt badly that there was no picture of it. Her nephew, Dale Butler, Gooding, Idaho, is an artist. She described to him this house and told him of the red sand hills in the back. From her memory and description Dale did this oil painting. Aunt Jane was just delighted and thrilled and said it looked just like the house was. (Helen T. Dalton)

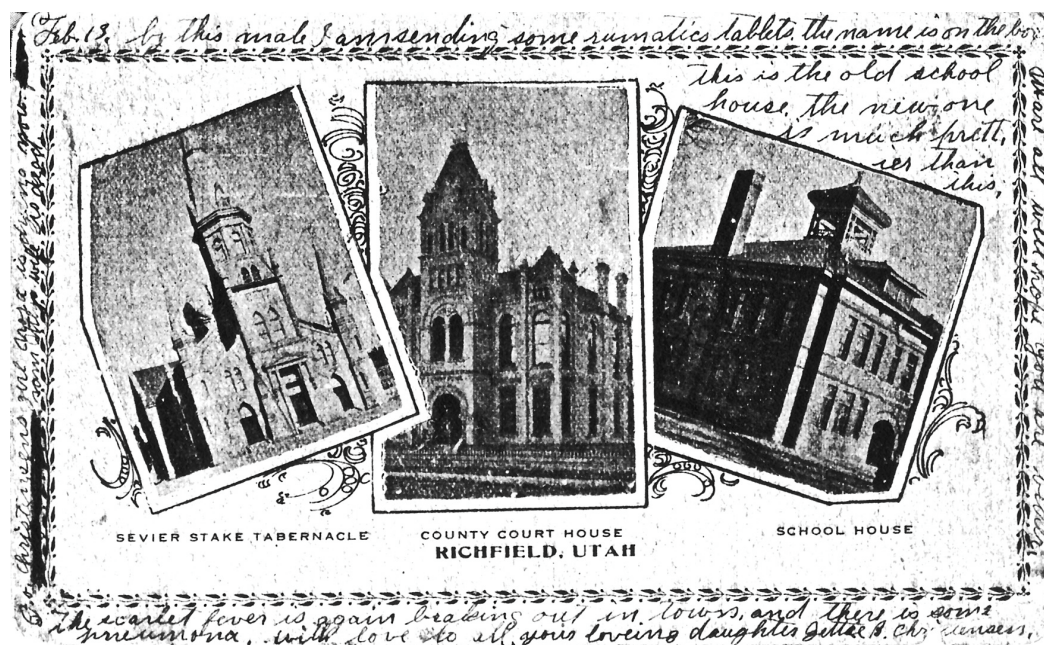


John Lowe Butler family

Back row: Jane, Caroline, Horace Calvin, Olive, Kenion Taylor

Front row: Sarah, Eva, John Lowe, Nancy Francetta, Leland Thomas, Francetty

About 1901



Card from Francetty to her mother



Francetty as Goddess of Liberty – 4 July 1898



Four generations: Omar John, Francetty, JoAnne, Frances Anne 1948



Four generations: Sarah Fish Smith McGregor, Erma Christensen, Nancy Franzetta Butler, Francetty Butler Christensen standing in rear.

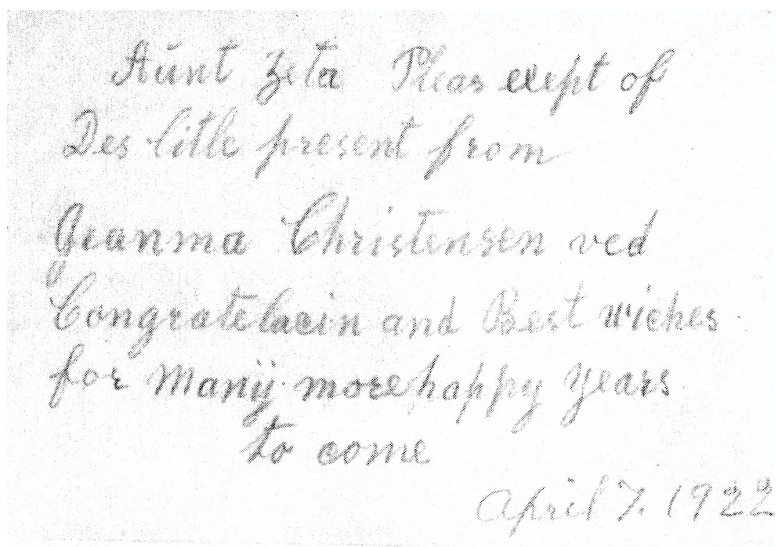


John Christensen family

Back row: Dan Smith, Omar John, John, Arlo "L", Erma
Front row: Mae, Laurel, Francetty, Beth

At right – baby Don Butler





Card to Francetty from her mother-in-law, Johanna Christensen



Francetty at home



Francetty at Fish Lake – her favorite pastime



Fish Lake cabin
Mae, Francetty, Ruth Roberts,
Laurel, Beth



Francetty at age 75



Francetty at Clear Creek Canyon

A Patriarchal blessing upon the head of Francetty Christensen, Daughter of John L. Butler & Francetta Smith, Born in Panguitch, Utah, Apr. 7th 1876—given in Richfield Utah, Feb. 20th 1901, by Jos. L. Horne.

Dear Sister Francetty, I place my hands upon your head as a servant of the Most High God, and in the authority of the eternal Priesthood to bless you, for the Lord has blessings in store for you. I say unto you dear Sister let your constant aim be to honor God and live according to His laws. Do not pattern after the wicked, nor follow the follies of Babylon, but seek to do that which the Lord desires you to do, that your life may be such as becomes the daughters of Zion; that your labors may be in ministering peace, comfort and happiness, not only to your own family, but to those around you. I bless you with wisdom, faith, integrity and courage, that your life may be one of usefulness. By your skill and your noble efforts, and with the assistance of your Companion you shall succeed in making your home a place of joy, comfort and happiness where your kindred and the Saints will delight to associate together. I bless you also with wisdom even in the training^{and rearing} of your family, that you may be successful in instilling into their hearts faith in the living God, and in the plan of salvation,

as well as by your example you may teach them to live pure lives. Be ever true to the covenants you have made. True to yourself, your husband and to all the faithful of God and you shall have joy in ministering for others' comfort, and in aiding to establish righteousness upon the earth. The Lord will give you testimonies, in addition to what you already have, of His goodness and power, and His willingness to bless those who love and try to serve Him. I bless you with all the blessings pertaining to the new and everlasting covenant; with long life, peace and happiness here upon the earth; and I say unto you if you live worthy of these things you shall receive them, and every righteous desire of your heart shall be granted unto you. All these blessings I seal upon you in the name of Jesus Christ, and I seal upon you eternal life in the world to come; even so. Amen.

Bertha Butler, Scribe.

Copied by Jos. S. Horne.

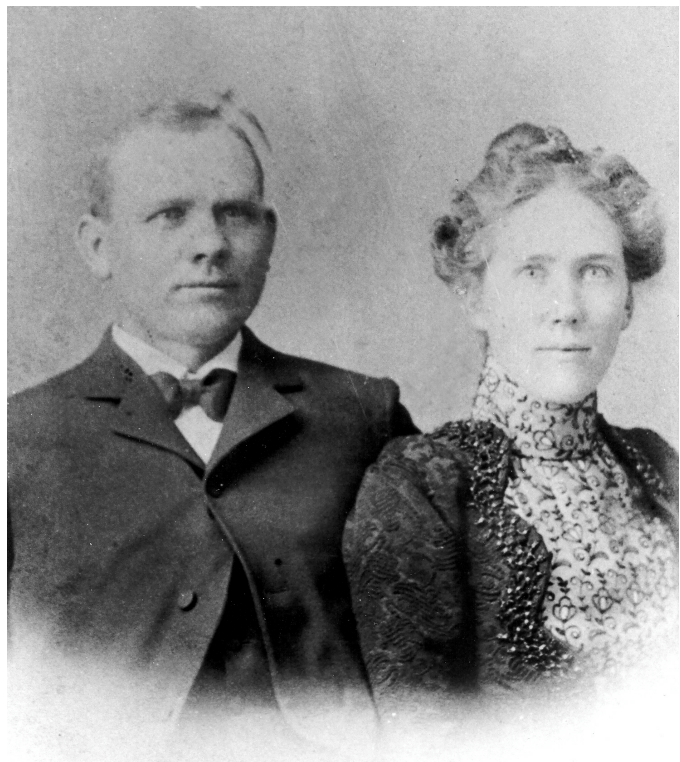
Francetty Christensen

| | |
|---|---|
| <h1 style="text-align: center;">Certificate of Marriage.</h1> | |
| STATE OF UTAH, } COUNTY OF SEVIER, } Sanpete, SS. | |
| I, <u>Francetty Centery</u> , that on the <u>21st</u> day of <u>July</u> | |
| in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and <u>Ninety Eight</u> | |
| at <u>Manti City,</u> in said County, I do undersigned a | |
| Elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, | |
| Holy Bonds of Matrimony according to the Laws of this State | |
| of the County of <u>Sevier</u> State of <u>Utah</u> | and |
| of the County of <u>Sevier</u> State of <u>Utah</u> | |
| Signed <u>John Christensen</u> GROOM. | |
| Signed <u>Francetty Butler</u> BRIDE. | |
| IN THE PRESENCE OF | |
| <u>Joseph H. Bull</u> | <u>John D. H. Allister</u> |
| <u>Samuel Jensen</u> | Elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, |
| WITNESSES: | |

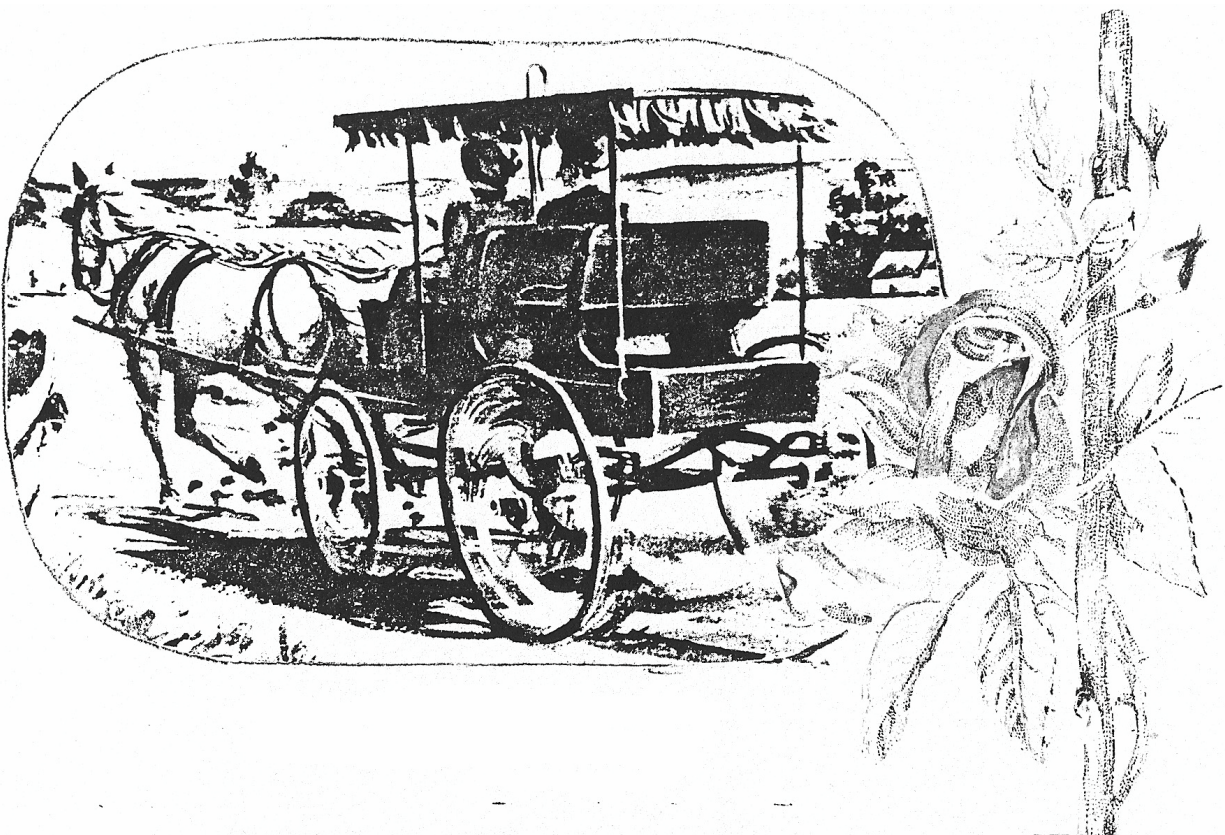
The pleasure of your company
is desired at the
marriage reception of

Francetty Butler
to
John Christensen

at Hans Christensen's residence
August Fourth,
Eighteen Hundred Ninty Eight
Seven p. m.



John and Francetty wedding picture



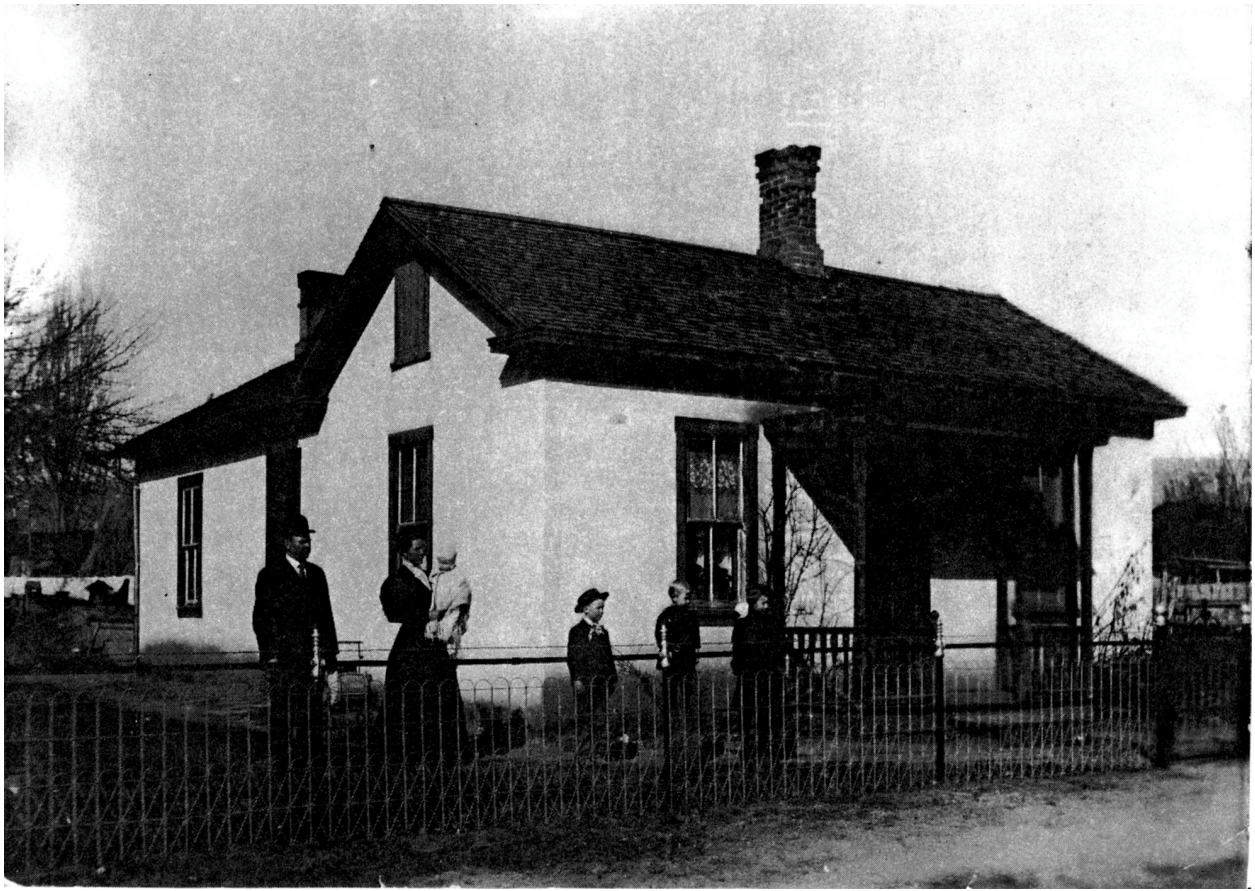
Horse and buggy similar to one used on wedding trip



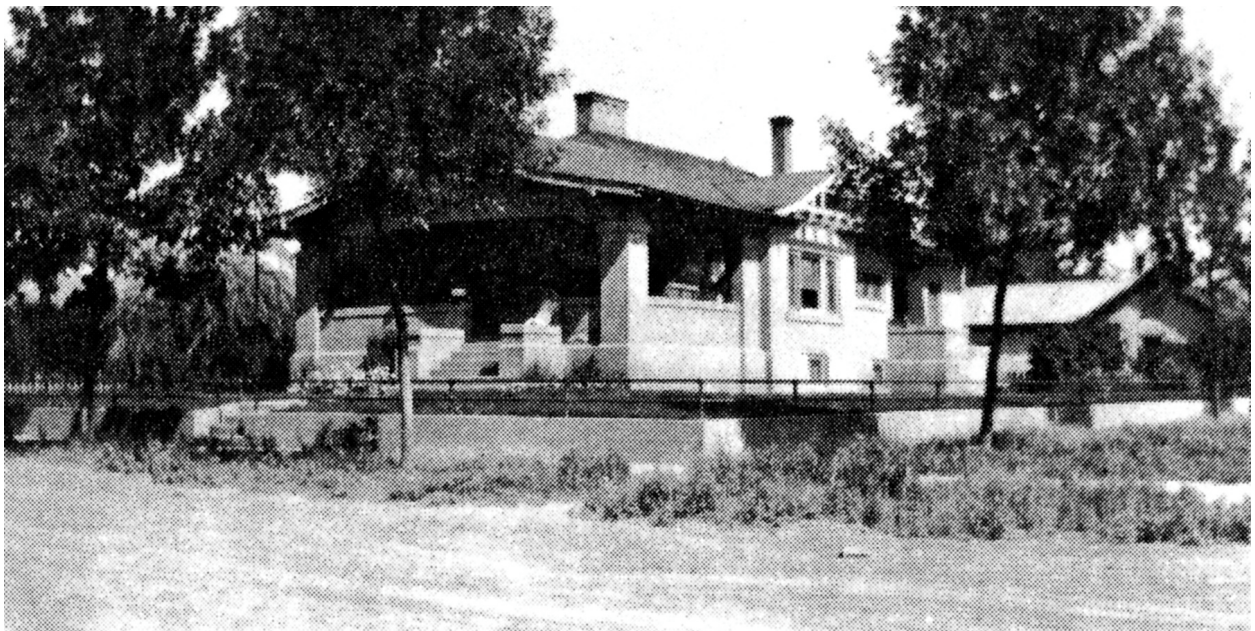
John on second LDS Mission

May the Lord bless you
 Lovingly Papa.
 NAUVOO, ILL., Oct. 2, 1846.

My Dear Sweet wife and Children
 I am now in Fort Madison, Iowa.
 As I was so near to Burlington.
 I got permission to have a couple
 of days for self. And as the penit-
 entary was now my way, I decided
 to stop off and see how steel goods
 were made by the prisoners. 3d page
 of cover you will find my new address.



First home where all eight children were born



New yellow brick home built in 1915

JOHN CHRISTENSEN CO.

DEALERS IN

HARDWARE AND IMPLEMENTS,

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS,

Burg Farm Wagons.

Phone 31.

Richfield, Utah, June 26, 1909.

Dear Wife & Children
The morning after Christmas
reception. They had quite an
elaborate affair. The Rev. &
Grooms expect to leave for Arizona
Monday or Tuesday next.

I was indeed pleased to learn that
you had had such a pleasant
journey up to the 93d and that
prospects were in your favor.

I thought of you in your
travels on Thursday driving
over the summit. That was such
a warm day that I was fearful
that you or Fred might not stand the
heat. It was warm enough here
to roast beef. However it is hoped
that you had no serious trouble
on the way. I take from the way
you write that Homer went
with the bunch. So you will

No. 31.

Have good care all the way
I was also pleased to hear that
you were successful in securing
a dress that you liked
and other things which you needed.
I hope your visit will be a
pleasant one. I wouldn't mind
to be with you on all the holidays.
So far I haven't been out with the big
girls but I have fed the chickens
and kept the lawn growing.
I started in to write you a lengthy
letter but haven't the time now.
Remember me to Grandma
and every body. I wish you
all the happiness you could
possibly desire.

Lovingly.

Yours John C.

You can possibly get checks cashed in some
of the Merchant's Bank. Without any
trouble or expense.

(D)
 I have received both your letters and
 checks. Thanks until you are better
 field

Manard July 4. 1909.

Dear Sweet Husband -

We are having a good time, but
 are home sick just the same,
 do wish you could come up and
 come home with us,
 We have had weather hot enough
 to kill. the thermometer went up
 to 104, we had a little rain yester-
 day, and will have more today.

They have build a bony and
 lunch and store booths for tom-
 orrow, Eva is to be Goddess.
 The children all go to ^{school} Sunday.
 Carlo enjoys it so much. The
 hot weather all the children but
 Emma Camas & Carlo, have been
 quite sick with summer complaints
 also some of the grown ups have suffered

(E)
 Ma looks fine much better than
 I expected. it find her. Carrie went
 as well as with her other baby.
 Horace is very poor but John &
 Taylor look fine also all the others.
 There fall grain is all headed
 out, and all their crops look
 fine. We had a very pleasant
 trip coming up the unders never
 flew in on us like they did
 before and there was a breeze
 blowing all the way over the
 mountains so it wasn't so
 very hot. I was tired just
 the same, but am feeling fine
 now. Dan & Russel both weigh
 21 lbs, and Johns girl 23 lbs,
 Olive haant got here yet.
 she feels very much disappointed,
 hope she will get here before
 I leave.

(3)

July 6.

The glorious fourth celebration has past and we are all well and un-
ingered, and all had a good time,
altho the wind blew and it rained
a little, Eva took her part as
Laddis very nicely and in the
evening Eva and Mr. Adams
took the prize for being the best
waltzers. The prizes was each a
bottle of perfume and a pair
of gardeners. Gomer was orator.
and Rutha resided, in the after-
noon there was a ball game, children
dancer, and races, in the evening
a dance. They have a matched
lumber floor under a willow-
bough and the evergreen trees
around for walls, and we
had a very nice time.
There wasnt an accident, a fight,
or a drunk man, -

I havent shot the gun yet
but have caught two nice trout.

Well how are you getting along
any way? what did you do for
the fourth? who is your best
girl now?

Oh I have a good time and
I love the summer.

Now the fourth is over we
will go off fishing more,
the weather is fine now,
not too warm.

All of the folks join me in
sending love to you, and wish
you were with us.

Your loving Wife,

PRESENTATION
and DEDICATION
of the ANONA to the
L. D. S. CHURCH
SATURDAY, MAR. 15, 1924

PROGRAM
of CEREMONIES

Community Singing . . . Direction Mrs. A. J. Bird
Invocation . . . Patriarch Morten Jensen
Mixed Chorus . . . Direction, Mrs. A. J. Bird
Remarks . . . President R. D. Young
Presentation . . . President J. M. Peterson
Response . . . President John Christensen
Dedicational Prayer . . . Elder Melvin J. Ballard
Grand March . . . Leader, Elder Geo. M. Jones

PROGRAM of DANCES

1. Waltz John
2. Fox Trot John
3. Fox Trot John
4. Waltz John
5. Virginia Reel John
6. Fox Trot John
7. Waltz John
8. Fox Trot John
9. Fox Trot John
10. Waltz John
11. Quadrille John
12. Fox Trot John
EXTRAS
1. Bernice, Ruth
2. and Ruth
3. presented flowers
4. Bernice, Ruth
Benediction, Elder E. W. Paulson

MR. AND MRS. JOHN CHRISTENSEN

EXTEND AN INVITATION TO YOURSELF AND PARTNER TO A

SOCIAL DANCING PARTY

IN THE

ANONA PAVILION, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1921

DANCING BEGINS AT EIGHT-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

The L. D. S. Christensen Anona
COMPLIMENTARY PASS

Issued to John Christensen

This Ticket is Not Transferable

Signed: W. L. Jensen Manager

Salt Lake City: Mar 6th 1913
 My Dear Daughter Betty & Larnie
 Your Dear Letter was received
 to day & was so pleased to hear
 from you. So sorry the baby
 wont doing so well as it ought
 to. Maney very fond and
 said she had been to your
 place & that the babe had not
 been doing so well do hope
 it will soon be ok. she also
 said she had a parcel from
 you. but havent been up to
 get it yet. Gaet has not been

well is better but so cross &
 we have been expecting some
 special meeting or party now
 for a bout a month. do not
 know just how much longer
 it will be put off. if I had
 have known it was going
 this way, should have come
 down to see you before.
 Just received a letter from
 Horace last evening. he said
 he would leave home to day
 or Saturday to come here
 he will likely be examined &
 it may not be just what he
 thinks. but I will write and
 let you know as soon as
 I learn how it is

I got a letter from Ida. she
 wanted to know a bout the
 news at home. but havent
 answered it yet. will as soon
 as Horace comes. I am feeling
 better. Erin came down
 when Ida did. he is getting
 some other buisness besides
 farming. think he has all
 arrangements for selling
 some Mettel. Ie also a
 Seless Refrigerator. do not
 know just what he will do
 yet but thinks he will rent

his farm if he can & take
 his famely. he was going
 to leave for home to day.
 I received a letter from John
 and Bertha last evening they
 said they were all well John
 said they had never been
 better. he weighs 208 lbs that
 is verry good. the boys Taylor
 and Leland are well he said
 Leland was doing fine in
 school and growing fast
 & was a boy to be proud of.
 Olive and Children are all
 getting better the children
 are peated loaling yet
 Carrie and Larnie are quite
 well now Rex and Erin has

been poorly since Erin left. Well it is very nice here to day think it will soon be spring. it rained last night. so it is good and muddy to day. I was down town with Gane on my birth day. we walked a round shopping. then went to a picture show. and came home. Erin was here to take us out to a play. so after supper we went and had a good time. and by the

time we got in bed I felt like I was 60 years all right. there saent much news to tell you. would love to see you all & will get there some time. if it will be a short visit. Thanks for the nice letter for the parcel & all the compliments. do not know if I am worthep of so many. but do know that I have 10 of the very loving & best children and do believe there isent a mother loves her children better than I do. Love & blessings to all and may the Lord Bless you
 Lovingly Mother

Richfield Ctr. 15. 1919

My Dear Sweet Mother —

I can't tell you how I feel to hear that you are so sick, and to think I am so far away that I can't run in and help you, or comfort you a little, but I sweet Mother, God has raised you from the dead, and many times has snatched you from the very brink of the grave, and I certainly have all faith that he will again spare your life, & that you may live many years to comfort your children, for there never was a dearer, sweeter Mother than you.

Uncle John W. Butler is here he looks better than when I saw him last, but his hair is white and his lips quiver, he says to tell you that he dearly loves you, for there, in his eye was never a more patient gentle mother than you, and he regrets that he hasn't told you more of it how he loved and appreciated all you have done for him. ~~Francis~~ ^{my} ~~is~~ ^{night} ~~is~~ ^{soon} to be married to a most wonderful woman I never that she would do that and they say is a very worthless fellow.

We just received a card from you stating that you arrived home O. H. and was so sorry to learn of Taylor's illness, it must be contagious. Tell Horace that we have a chance to sell the safe so would like to know what he intends to take it. John, Eva & the children send love and hoping you will soon be better. God bless you dear sweet Mother.

Yours loving daughter,
Jettie.