

HISTORY OF EVA BUTLER

Compiled by Helen Thurber Dalton - From sources as given 20 September 1962--Boise, Idaho.

Eva Butler was born 9 December 1892 at Richfield, Sevier County, Utah; she died 24 June 1940, at Soda Springs, Idaho; she married Bailey Allen Dixon on 2 July 1913 in the Logan Temple, Logan, Utah. She was the daughter of John Lowe Butler II and Nancy Franzetta Smith. Eva was the ninth of ten children, as follows:

1. John Lowe Butler III., born 5 June 1874, Panuitch, Garfield, Utah, died 1 July 1937; married 15 Nov. 1899 to Bertha Melvina Thurber.
2. Franzetta Butler, born 7 April 1876, at Panguitch, Garfiled, Utah, died 27 Sept. 1959; married 21 July 1898 to John Christensen.
3. Sarah (Sadie) Butler, born 2 Feb. 1878 at Panguitch, Garfield, Utah, died 4 July 1942; married 12 January 1898 to Gover Morgan Richards.
4. Caroline (Carrie) Butler, born 2 Dec. 1880, at Panguitch, Garfield, Utah; still living; married 7 April 1903 to Issac Erin Thurber.
5. Horace Calvin Butler, born 6 Feb. 1883, at Joseph, Sevier, Utah; died 6 October 1958; md. 16 May 1906 to Ida Gould.
6. Olive Butler, md. 26 Jan. 1885, at Richfield, Sevier, Utah; md. Jesse Loren Smith on 17 Jan 1908.
7. Jane Butler, born 22 Feb 1887, at Richfield, Sevier, Utah; md. 6 Mar. 1918 to Elmer W. Nielson.
8. Kenion Taylor Butler, born 10 May 1889, at Richfield, Sevier, Utah; md. 5 June 1918 to Thelma Peterson.
9. Eva Butler, born 9 Dec. 1892, at Richfield, Sevier, Utah; died 24 June 1940; md 2 July 1913 to Bailey Allen Dixon.
10. Leland Thomas Butler, born 21 March 1897, at Richfield, Sevier, Utah; md. 21 March 1943 at Santa Barbara, California to Helen Camille Phelps Carter.

Eva Butler came from fine sturdy pioneer stock. These pioneers (seven in number) accepted the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in the early days of the Church, in the time of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The missionaries found them in various places in Eastern America and in Canada. They accepted the Gospel, loved it, and every one of them gathered with the Saints in Nauvoo, Ill. Every one of them were blessed by living in Nauvoo when the Prophet did, and hearing him speak. They experienced the shock of the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum, and went through the trials and persecutions, of having to give up their homes. They did not falter and stay behind, which would have been the easier way, but they followed the leadership of Brigham Young and came across the plains by wagon train, 1,300 miles to Utah. These ancestors who came to Utah thus were:

1. JOHN LOWE BUTLER I., who was a member of the Bodyguard to the Prophet. He and his wife crossed the Plains in 1852, settling in Spanish Fork, Utah, where he became Bishop. His wife:
2. CAROLINE FAROZINE SKEEN, was born 15 April 1812 in Summer County, Tenn., died 4 Aug. 1875 in Panguitch, Utah. Her father had negro slaves, and it was said of her that she did not comb her own hair until she was married. They brought their family with them which included their eight year old son:
3. JOHN LOWE BUTLER II., the Prophet Joseph Smith held him on his lap when he was about two years old. When he was eight years old he helped drive some stock all the way across the Plains and to Spanish Fork, Utah.
4. JOHN CALVIN LAZELLE SMITH, who settled in Parowan, Utah where he became stake president Also his wife:
5. Sarah FISH. They came across the plains in 1848. Also her father.
6. Horace FISH. They came across the Plains in 1859. His wife:
7. HANNAH LEAVITT. While in Nauvoo she was a member of the Nauvoo Relief Society, so was Sarah Fish Smith and Caroline Farozine Skeen Butler.

These pioneer ancestors of Eva's--they came across the Plains to escape persecution and found new homes for liberty and for love of the Gospel, and they remained faithful and true all the days of their lives. They were not rich in this world's goods, but they were rich in love for their families. They founded homes in Utah where they gave service in the Church and in the Community and they lived in the light of the inspired teachings and influence of President Brigham Young.

Eva Butler also had other more ancient ancestors who were pioneers who left their native homes because of religious persecution and they came to the land of America, to New England, in the very early days of the history of America--they were Puritans, Pilgrims, and they also came for religious freedom. Among these ancestors are:

Stephen Hopkins and his wife Elizabeth Fisher, who came from England on the Mayflower in 1620.
Francis Cooke (Francois Couck), who also came from Leydon, Holland on the Mayflower in 1620.

John Butler, came from Ireland, and was a Revolutionary soldier in 1776.

John Lowe, came from England, md. Ann or Nancy Butler, dau. of John Butler of Ireland. John Lowe was a Soldier of the Revolution.

Barnabas Farr and his wife Dorothy Moench came from Germany.

Alexander Skeen, born about 1740 in Scotland.

Joseph Thompson, born about 1720 in Ireland.

Thomas Shannon, born in Ireland, md. Ann Rand.

Nathaniel Fish, md. Lydia Miller. He came from England, died 1693 at Sandwich Mass.

John Lazelle, born about 1620 in England, md. Elizabeth Gates.

John Wadleigh, born about 1599 in England.

Michel McClellan, born about 1705, in the North of Ireland, Md. Jane Henry, and their daughter

Jannet McClellan, born about 1731 in Ireland.

(Captain) Michael Pierce, born about 1615 in England, md. Persis Eames.

Anthony Eames, born 1593 at St. Geroge Fordington, Dorset, England, md. Margery Prisse.

(Captain) John Holbrook, born 6 April 1618, at St. Johns, Glastonbury Som., England; md. (2) Elizabeth Stream. Also his father

Thomas Holbrook, born about 1594, Glastonbury, Somerset, England, and his wife Jane Powers was an immigrant also.

George Frye, born at Combe, St. Nicholas, Somerset, England, and his dau. Ruth Frye was born 1650 at Weymouth, Mass.

Edward Gilman, born 1587/88 at Caston, Eng.; md. Mary Clark

Thomas Dudley, 2nd Governor of Mass., and his first wife Dorothy Yorke., also their son (Reverend) Samuel Dudley.

John Leavitt (Deacon), was born about 1608 in England.

HISTORY OF EVA (BUTLER) DIXON

These men and women have descendants all over America. Eva's children may be humbly proud of this heritage. Archibald F. Bennett, Secretary of the Genealogical Society of Utah said: "Happy should be the family whose ancestors settled early in New England, for they were God's chosen seed for planting the greatest nation this earth has ever known" -- quoted from his textbook for Genealogical class in Sunday School "Saviors on Mount Zion." page 87.

John Lowe Butler II., Eva's father, was one of the original pioneers who came across the plains before the time of the railroad. His parents joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Simpson County, Kentucky on 9 March 1835 and shortly after gathered with the Saints in Caldwell and Davis Counties and later in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois, and it was here that John Lowe Butler II. was born on 22 Feb. 1844. He was eight years old when he with his father's family crossed the plains in 1852. Young John, only eight, helped to drive 200 head of heifers across the plains. They settled in Spanish Fork, Utah where John Lowe Butler I. became Bishop, the first one of that place. Young John was 15 years old when his father died. At Panguitch, later, the Butler Brothers (John Lowe II., his brothers James and Thomas) worked together, owning a farm by Panguitch Lake, also were in the sheep business and horse raising. They owned a summer ranch near the lake, a big farm about three miles from Panguitch on the Sevier River; they had a saw and shingle mills. John Butler II. ran the sheep, the saw and shingle mills, James ran the farm, and Thomas had charge of the horses. They were prosperous for some time, but in 1881 they sold their land and some of the horses, dividing up their partnership, and all three moved to Joseph, Sevier County, Utah where they bought farms. John ran sheep for a good many years, until 1892 when he had discovered the Carry Mine, afterwards incorporated as the Butler-Beck Mining Co., with John L. Butler II., President and John Beck as General Manager, located on Deer Creek on north base of Baldy Mountain about 30 miles south and a little west of Richfield, Utah.

This mine seemed to be his "undoing" financially. It did not prosper, also he worked so hard to provide for his large family. He went into mining in 1892, the year little Eva was born, and from then on it seemed that things went against him. Olive said "Father separated from his brothers in Sevier County where he went into sheep and cattle business, and as Horace said, drove them in a mine, and they never came out again."

At Panguitch John Lowe Butler II., was deputy sheriff. One of his duties was to keep ruffians out of the dance hall. At one of the dances, four or five rough-looking fellows entered the hall and threatened to break up the dance. John told them to leave and they cursed him and said they could lick anyone there. John stepped to the door to enforce their leaving, and one of them hit him over the head with a slab. He was rushed to Salt Lake City to be cared for. They operated on his head, taking out a piece of bone. The rest of his life he had head aches which were severe, resulting from that injury.

When Eva was just a little girl his health had begun to fail, and then he developed Brights Disease and died 30 Dec. 1898, when Eva was six, and little Lee Tom was only 1 1/2 years.

Eva's mother, Nancy Franzetta (Smith) Butler, was slender, with dark hair, and was just dainty. She was a wonderful mother to her ten children, and was such a hard worker and good home maker. She carded wool, spun the yarn and wove cloth to make into dresses. Her daughter Carrie said "I never did see a person that could knit as fast as she could. And she knit the socks for the whole family, ten children. I have seen her start a stocking when we would be all around the fireplace for the evening, and when we would all get ready for bed she would ask someone to put some more wood on the fire, then she would cuddle herself over near the hearth and say that she was going to stay up awhile. The next morning I noticed the stocking was practically finished. She was also a beautiful quilter. And she was so kind and thoughtful and unselfish."

Eva's oldest brother John and wife Bertha moved to Camas Prairie and homesteaded a farm, in 1904. In 1905 Erin Thurber and wife Caroline followed, and in 1908 Horace Butler, Ida and baby Ruth moved there. At first they lived in John and Bertha's front room that first winter until their home was ready to live in. Jane believes it was 1906 when Eva, little Lee Tom, K. T. and their mother went to the Prairie, and they lived with John and Bertha part of the time until the boys built her a comfortable home just across the lane from John and Bertha's.

This was where Eva lived from about 14 until she was married, at 21. Jane says the first school, in 1905-06 was held in a granery at Labrum's place, probably less than a quarter of a mile from John and Bertha's home. They cleaned this granery out and used it for a school during that first winter. They had benches clear across the little one room, and desks clear across. Then they built a little one room school house on John Butler's farm and Eva surely went to that. School in the granery at Labrums was taught by a Mr. McAdams. Jane thinks Eva went to that school. Elva Labrum says she knows that K. T. went there.

Ethel Jenkins was Eva's best girl friend. Also Essie Leo was about the same age, but Eva and Ethel were together a lot. Gradually more families moved in and they built the little school house at Manard, and the Manard hall where they held church, and in fact all church functions, including dances for the community. Most of the people moving there were Latter Day Saints. Right at Manard there was a little store run by Dixons, a blacksmith shop run by Joseph Heber Thurber; his wife Annie was a midwife. There was the Isaac Erin Thurbers (he was the Bishop for five years, from 1907 until 1912). There were the Borups, the Worthingtons, the Bent Beans, the Neilsons, the Lee family, the Labrums, the Adams, the Goulds, and others.

The young people, of whom Eva was one, surely had a lot of fun. Carrie remembers one time the young people had a "chickeree". They gathered up a chicken at two or three of the homes, then went to one place and killed, dressed and cooked them. What a feast! Among the young people somewhat near Eva's age, some a little older and some a little younger, were K.T., Jane, and Lee Tom Butler, Bailey, Alf, and Lime Dixon, Elmer Neilson, Hyrum and Florence Lee, brother and sister, Carrie Worthington, Eva and Elva Labrum, Edna Thurber and Jimmie McClure.

The young people two or three times (or two or three summers) went up in the Mountains, on little Smokey, and spent a week or ten days. She remembers one time for certain that Eva was with them, so was Bailey. This one time there were 12 young people. They had a chaperon, a sister of Bert Bean. They would go horse back riding, hunting, and fishing. They drove a little wagon up with supplies and bedding, etc. One time Fred Dalton drove the wagon up. They had lots of fun. (Elva Labrum remembers this).

The big celebration day at Manard was the 24th of July. I, Helen Dalton remember one so well, where they held concessions, and sort of a pageant depicting the pioneers crossing the plains, and part of the celebration was a horse race and I remember so well seeing K.T. Butler, and John Dalton, on horses and in the race. It seems to me like K.T. won and I know for sure that after the race or perhaps it was part of the show, K.T. with a flourish reached down, while in the saddle, and picked something up from the ground. I stood there with my mouth open, spellbound with his prowess.

Eva spent one winter at her Aunt Sadie's in Salt Lake City. While she was there her brother Horace went down too, and he accompanied Eva to a party, and he vowed Eva was the most attractive young lady there.

Eva was considered a very beautiful girl. Aub Dalton says when they moved there his impression was that Eva Butler was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen. Edith (Butler) Whitehead of Twin Falls remembers how very pretty and sweet she was. She used to play the organ, and how she loved to play.

She was very popular, and had dates with several, and she finally started going with Bailey Dixon. Elva Labrum says, laughingly, one time Bailey Dixon and Eva came and picked them up to go to a dance. It was real cold, and Elva who was younger, wanted to get warmer, so she climbed in between Bailey and Eva! When she was older, Elva said she laughed and thought that was a crazy thing to do. Elva says she remembers how Eva and Bailey were such a good looking couple, how they were so nice to each other, and they were really in love.

Bailey Dixon wrote of her (Eva's Mother): "While you are all expressing your appreciation for Mother Butler, I think I might add my contribution. I don't think there was a kid in Manard that couldn't say they loved Mother Butler. Her home was the gathering place of the gang, and she was always there to make them welcome. I think she loved young people. She was a good cook too, and one of the outstanding things that I remember was when we went there for dinner (and it might seem simple) but it was the bean soup that she sometimes served. She knew just how to fix it, and it just struck the spot. I don't think I ever sat down to a bowl of bean soup that I don't think of Mother Butler."--Baily Dixon, Rupert, Idaho Jan. 4, 1953.

When Eva was 21, in 1913, tragedy struck. Her mother had been to Richfield visiting Eva's sister Zetty, and also to Salt Lake visiting Sadie, and she had returned home the first part of April. She had been gone most of the winter. She was suffering from a bad cold at the time and overdid herself cleaning house and getting her home in order, and she contracted pneumonia and died April 21, 1913. She was sixty years of age. This was a great loss.

Eva and Bailey had been thinking of getting married, and finally they decided to go ahead with their plans and they were married in the Logan Temple on 2 July 1913. They went on the train. When they returned they went to live with Bailey's mother, who had a little home right in the townsite of Manard. We all called her Aunt Susie Dixon, whether we were related to her or not.

Aunt Susie Dixon's house was a little like a duplex (from my memory), and during the winter of 1913 my father, Isaac Erin Thurber, and family lived in one-half of her house. There were four of us children, myself, Helen, age eight, Waldo, Rex, and Erin. My father had had crops freeze and had tried to do something besides farming and had lived for several months during 1913 in LaGrande, Oregon, and had now returned to Manard and we spent the winter in Aunt Susie Dixon's. I so well remember Christmas that year, so I shall copy that account: "This Christmas Eve my father and mother went out for the evening and left me in charge of the small children. My aunt Eva and her husband Bailey Dixon lived in the other half of the duplex.

"Now I concluded that I very much wanted to see Santa Claus, and so, without saying anything to my brothers I slipped into bed with my clothes on and resolved to stay awake and get a peek at him. Sometime later I heard sleigh bells outside and my heart pounded so I could hardly stand it. The bells sounded as they came up to the door, and oddly I heard my Aunt Jane's voice, and she (with Santa Claus, I presumed) went in to see Aunt Eva. I just knew that next he would come across the hall and in to our place. I waited and waited breathlessly--but he didn't come, and everything was so quiet. Finally the thought came to my mind, "Santa Claus knows I have my dress on, and knows I am trying to wait to see him--and that is why he doesn't come! I quietly climbed out of bed, undressed and put my night gown on, climbed back in and peacefully went to sleep. All four of us children were sleeping in one bed. And sure enough, in the morning there was a lovely doll for me, and I was so happy."

A few months after Eva's marriage, another big occurrence happened. Boise Stake was formed, and Manard was included. At Gooding, Idaho, November 3, 1913, two hundred forty-eight members of the Church assembled themselves together to enact a little scene on the stage of live, which scene, viewed from a distance of the years, may well be considered a historical event. My father and mother attended this meeting. Do not know whether Eva and Bailey did. This gathering represented some three thousand Later-day Saint members living north of the Snake River, in the territory bounded by the mountains on the north, Minidoka on the east, and Huntington, Oregon, on the west. Francis M. Lyman and Rudger Clawson, apostles from the Quorum of the Twelve; William T. Jack, President of the Cassia Stake; F. S. Bramwell, President of the Union Stake, and Melvin J. Ballard, President of the Northwestern States Mission, participated in the deliberations.

Out of these deliberation and the resulting action, organization of the Boise Stake of Zion was launched. To head this new Stake, covering the many miles of territory indicated, the following men were selected: Heber Q. Hale, President; William F. Rawson, first counselor; C. Oscar Winkler, second counselor; Wilford M. McKendrick, clerk, and a high council composed of Richard N. Hill, Arther B. Case, George Wilford Sparks, Herbert E. Hansen, Roland H. Smith, Alonzo Read, George E. Hellewell, Jr., Herman P. Fails, William Gough and William Grant.

At Carey, Idaho, on August 3, 1919, the Blaine Stake was organized, consisting of the area east of the line constituting the eastern boundary of Elmore County, and included the Wards and branches of Carey, Rupert, Jerome, Heyburn, Manard, Gooding, Hazelton, Wendel and Gannett, with a population of 2,967 members. --taken from booklet commemorating the Dedication of the Boise First Ward Chapel, Boise Stake, on Sunday, February 26, 1939, compiled by Ariel L. Crowley.

In August 1906, most likely the year Eva came to Camas Prairie, Henry G. Labrum was the presiding elder of the branch. He hadn't had any counselors, and now, in August, 1906, they held a conference and Erin Thurber was made first counselor and John Butler second counselor. They held Church services in the different homes as they had no building. The following year, 21 July 1907, at a conference the Branch was made into a Ward with Erin

Thurber as Bishop, John Butler and Harvey Dixon as counselors. Lewis Adams was made Ward Clerk. A small one room school house was built on John Butler's land, and they also held Sunday School and Church services in that building. In 1909 they formed a townsite and (of Manard) and started building the Manard Hall, for church and social functions. Harvey Dixon had small store and Post Office. In 1913 Erin Thurber was released as Bishop, and Harvey Dixon was the new Bishop.

Eva and Bailey were living at Aunt Susie's place when their first baby was born. The two doctors from Fairfield, six miles away, Ayer and Dee Higgs, attended. The birth was difficult and the doctors had to use instruments. little Wallace Bailey Dixon was born 30 May 1914. There was an injury at this difficult birth and little Wallace was an invalid all of his life. He was helpless and needed to be cared for as a baby, even to be fed. This brought sorrow and pain to the parents, who had been so happy. But never did a child receive more loving care than did little Wallace.

Some time after his birth the family moved a short distance away, right close to the Manard Hall, in the home of Sister Wray. The constant care Wallace needed prevented Eva from going and participating in Church as much as she could have.

The winter of 1917 and 1918 they spent in Salt Lake City, where Bailey worked for the Railroad. It was here their second child was born. In 1923 they moved to Rupert, Idaho.

Bailey Allen Dixon was born 23 March 1889 at AFton, Lincoln, Wyoming. He and Eva Butler were married 2 July 1913 in Logan Temple. Their children are as follows:

1. Wallace Bailey Dixon, born 30 May 1914, Manard, Idaho, died 20 Nov. 1930, Nampa, Idaho.
2. LaMar Albert Dixon, b. 23 Jan. 1918, Salt Lake City, Utah.
3. Keith Howard Dixon, b. 24 Sept. 1924, Rupert, Minidoka, Idaho.

In 1923, when LaMar was five years old, the family moved to Rupert. Bailey did sheep shearing, managed a store, etc.

As little Wallace grew older, even though so much love and affection were given, yet the physical strain of lifting and carrying him began to affect Eva's health. Some of her loved ones suggested they place him in a hospital, but they could not give him up. Finally when Wallace was 16 in the summer of 1930, while Bailey was away sheep shearing, Bailey's two brother, Lime and Jim Dixon, in compassion, brought Eva and little Wallace to Boise, had lunch at her sister Carrie's, and asked Carrie to go with them over to Nampa, 22 miles west, where they placed Wallace in the Hospital. My mother still sheds tears when remembering that time. Eva was so nearly broken hearted to leave him. They nearly had to carry her out. Some time later Eva and Bailey came to Boise, then over to Nampa toward evening to see Wallace. But there was a sign on the door that no visitors after certain hours, and they could not go in to see him, and Bailey could not wait over.

Another time mother (Carrie) went over to see him by herself. She had to wait while they got him ready for company, and when she went in Wallace was so excited and his beautiful eyes were so eager. Then when he took a good look at her he slowly relaxed. She said, "it nearly broke my heart, for I know he expected to see his mother."

Wallace died 20 November, 1930 in the hospital, having been there for several months.

I personally remember seeing Wallace, while they lived in Rupert. He had the most beautiful big brown eyes a person ever had. He had dark brown hair, and was extremely good looking. He had such a look of fine intelligence in his eyes. He just could not communicate. What a blessed release his death was. With our knowledge of the Gospel, we know that while here in the mortal state he was in prison. We also know that he did not need to be baptized for as he had not sinned, and that he will automatically inherit the Celestial Kingdom, and that whether he reaches the highest degree of the Celestial Kingdom will depend on his faith, and works.

Eva's health was not the best now, but she sought to make a good home for the family, and she was so proud of her two fine healthy sons, LaMar and Keith.

Now let us go back--back to Eva's early life and youth. Here are some of the memories of her sister Carrie:

"There were six sisters in the family, and Eva was the youngest. My mother made all the dresses, and having so many girls the oldest got the new dresses and the younger ones got the "hand-me-downs". Came the day when Eva, about 12, and her mother was making her a new dress, all for herself. Eva said, "I am so thankful that I am going to have a dress out of all new material, so now the kids won't say "whose was it?" Eva was a proud little piece. She loved to do things. She always did her part in doing the work. She and Bailey were a fine looking young couple. Little Wallace was such a beautiful child. He was injured at birth. They took him to a number of doctors in Salt Lake City, but the injury was permanent. He had big brown eyes and a most beautiful head of hair."

Her sister Olive, wrote in September 1962:

"MEMORIES of my Darling Sister Eva (Butler) Dixon. It was the year 1892, December 9th, when Grandma Ramsey, who was a very efficient midwife, came to our house. Brother Horace, Jane and I were hustled off to neighbor's house to play, we knew not why, until later the news came to us that Grandma Ramsey had brought us a baby sister. Folks had no trouble getting us to go home to see if it was true. They named her Eva and she was really a beautiful and adorable little baby. It was so thrilled I could hardly wait for mama to let me change her diapers. The time came when I even bathed her in a round wooden wash tub.

"Many times I rocked her to sleep, and Jane helped her learn to walk. She was really a sweet and beautiful baby, blue eyed and fair skin. She was very attractive and cute. Mama thought once that too much attention would spoil her, but it didn't. I taught her, I believe, the first little song she learned. It was interesting to watch her wave her little hand to the beat time for the song. "Up and down, through the town, with my basket on my head, all day long, hear my song, come and buy my cherries red."

"At that time I was able to make scuffed cloth bodies for dolls, and could buy small china doll heads to attach. About this time Eva was two years old, and black eyed K.T. 4 years, and Jane around six with me nine, makes a good set-up to play school, and pretence, primary and shows, or to play grown up, keeping house on a cattle ranch, with stick horses to come and go.

"Well, Eva continued to play the games that children played those Pioneer days. In winter we sat around the fireplace reading stories to the younger ones. I remember Eva had to go to bed earlier than I. When it was her bed time, prayers and good night kisses were said, and she carried a lighted candle to bed. Mama, or most any of we older ones, tucked her in bed.

"Then the time came when Eva was not the baby any more-- a blue eyed blond curly headed boy called Lee Tom was added to our family.

"Papa was not well. When Lee Tom was around two years old Papa had heavy financial losses, and I had to work at little jobs here and there, and Jane was home to plan their fun.

"I helped to care for papa part of the summer and fall before he died, Dec. 30, 1898. That Christmas has always been in my mind. Papa took very ill before Christmas and John was on a mission; Horace was only 16 and took over Papa's job as caretaker at the mine and what money Mama had was dwindling, so we, Jane and I, knew there would be no gifts for Christmas, and Eva, 6, K.T. and Lee Tom all believed in Santa, so we decided to play pretend, and have a celebration at Christmas.

"We got a pine limb from a log on the woodpile, fastened it to stand up, and Jane decorated it with some bright pieces of paper and yarn, and made little beds on the floor of the north bedroom where there was a heater. We had searched around for any old toys we could find or make. Jane painted an old top with blueing bag, found a harmonica with part of the notes gone; a homemade ball made of used yarn, a broken china doll head was mended and attached to a rag doll body, an old pocket knife and a few marbles. This Christmas eve papa was very ill, and we had to be quiet, but we sang songs and told Christmas stories, and they thought it was fun.

"A few days later papa was still so very ill. There had been help part of the time to sit up with papa to keep mama company, but they had gone home, and I was alone with mother the last half of the night. We had watched him suffer so terribly, and pretty soon Mama went into her bedroom and prayed that if he couldn't get better, if it was His will, please let him go now. When she came out, death had started over him, and she asked me to wake up K.T. and Eva and Jane and have them come kiss him. They all took it so hard, just cried and cried. Jan and I had quite a time consoling Eva and K.T.

"Before Papa took bad he had time to be more devoted to the little ones, and each one wanted to wait on him in little ways. Little Lee Tom woke up and he had the job of giving papa a drink of water from his pretty little mug, and this last night he couldn't realize what was happening and insisted on giving him water, kept saying, "he wants me to give him a drink," so mother said, "yes, Olive, let him use a spoon and wet his tongue."

"This account covers the first eight years of Eva's childhood. (This written to Carrie in Sept. 1962) I can't tell you how hard it has been for me to do this. I realize not many are left in the family who have their memories of her early childhood, so please correct spelling and poor arrangement and leave out anything you think would be better, and I hope to be better prepared to write more.

"The spring after father died I went out to work at various places where someone was ill, then went to Salt Lake City to work, and was around Eva very little after that, or just off and on, until we came to Camas Prairie in 1905, and then to Rupert, Idaho.

"Eva was quick to learn, and became a good reader. She like to read books, which was good for her nerves at a time when she needed it. Eva was brought up in a home where she took her turn kneeling with the family around a long table with chairs turned, for family prayer. Also, we the family recognized the keeping of the Word of Wisdom, besides keeping the Ten Commandments very good. Eva lived the Golden Rule, the two things that would, if lived by more people, make the world better." --Olive (Butler) Smith, Sept. 1962.

Eva's sister Jane wrote, in Sept. 1962:

"MY EARLY RECOLLECTIONS of my dear sister Eva. We spent the summers at the Butler Beck mine, which was a mine owned jointly by my father, John Lowe Butler II. and John Beck of Spanish Fork, Utah. This was a gold mine, and was located on Deer Creek, in the Gold Mountain District about 50 miles southwest of Richfield, Utah.

"This summer, when Eva was little, we went in a wagon loaded with a summer supply of necessities and the family. Also Will Ogden was with us. The road was very rough and steep, and took us two days to make it. When going up a very steep hill, Papa (we called him Pa) had us all get out and walk, but left Eva in a little nest in the top of the load. The horses had to stop to get their breath every little while, and mother finally took the baby off the load. A few minutes later the team was worn out and let the wagon back off the road, tipping it over and rolling everything out of the wagon down into a deep gulch.

"I remember going down there and finding a heavy flatiron (all iron) and a big package of needles and some thread. I probably found other things, but these are what I remember, and we were all so happy and thankful that our baby Eva was safe and unhurt.

"One summer we had a little black dog, Flora. Eva loved her very much and they were constant companions. I remember when the big girls took us down by the creek, Flora always walked between Eva and the creek. She was so little and the dog was protecting her. That summer, someone came over to get help to search for a three year old child lost over on Clear Creek. I think some of our men went over, and after three days' search, they found the child, -- he was asleep on the creek bank, with one bare foot in the water. After this we never let our little Eva out of our sight.

"Perhaps I should not tell so much, but feel like Eva's family should know something about her early life. Our cook house at the mine was a long log room with a dirt roof and rough boards laid over it; and a door leading from the back opened into a store room, the cellar and a bedroom.

"Eva was a spunky little girl, but so sweet and pretty, and somewhat spoiled by the men who worked for Papa. They were mostly family men from nearby towns and loved children. One day Uncle John Beck came in with Eva on his back. Something happened to displease her when he put her down, and she flew at him, kicking him on the leg. He fell to the floor groaning as he was certain his leg was broken. At first she looked at him defiantly; then gradually melted, and kneeling by him, cried and kissed him. The kisses soon made the leg better and she helped him up and was very constant in ministering to his needs for some time.

"Another time when our parents had failed to have her overcome the habit of biting, she gave K.T. a bad bite on the shoulder. Pa was very much grieved to think of pulling his little girls' teeth and taking a huge pair of horse shoe pinchers, he put her on the floor between his knees. She would not open her mouth, but screamed with her teeth closed tightly; and Pa talked about hating so badly to pull those pretty teeth, and finally gave her another chance! And I believe it worked, as I don't recall her biting after that.

"When she was in the first grade, with Miss Morris as teacher, one day as I was leaving school Miss Morris called me to her room. She was having difficulty with Eva. They were making houses with toothpicks and the soft beans from locust pods. Eva made a lovely one, but when Miss Morris drew attention to how nice it was, Eva slapped it down. Miss Morris kept her after school, and Eva rebuilt it several times but slapped it down as soon as Miss Morris went to look at it. After much persuading she let the teacher see it, and then took her home.

As Eva grew older she outgrew her spunk and was a lovely sweet-tempered girl. She was not a very strong child, had earache so much. I remember once looking in her throat when she was sick--her throat looked terrible. It turned out to be diphtheria, but I did not get it.

"Her desire for music was outstanding. She would sit for hours in front of the old secretary, pretending it was an organ, and sing Primary and Sunday School songs.

"When she came to Idaho she was a beautiful girl, and was admired by all for her charm and gracious dignity. She was always liked by people wherever she was. She was 21 when mother died. I know she missed mother very much and I wish I had helped her more. She was happy when preparing for her wedding and a new home. They were certainly a fine looking couple.

"She was so happy preparing for her first born. Little Wallace's illness was such a heartache to her, but she tried hard to do her duty with her family, and was so proud of her two healthy sons. Poor health was a constant drain on her, far more than we realized, but she did not lose her pride and dignity. I still grieve over Eva's death.

"I feel sure that all of her posterity will be proud of such a gracious and cultured mother and grandmother, and do wish all could have known her as I did. --Jane (Butler Nielson, Wendell, Idaho, Sept. 1962.

Then Olive writes a little more about the Tip-over with the wagon:

"I have a vivid memory of coming to a spring, then a steep pitch for a way and many got out to walk. Carrie was there and not too well. I told mother I would take Lee and we would slowly walk ahead which we did, so I didn't see the tip-over, but saw it after they called us back. Carrie had fainted and someone had gone back to the spring for water. I think a cowboy appeared on the scene and helped with her. I was very upset to see a broken sack of four had gone over the steep side of the hill, and many small things scattered down a steep place to be gathered up and learned we would have to eat lunch there, so it must have been Eva who was left on the load, as Jane was walking and I remember K.T. walking behind the load to block the wheel just before Lee and I left the load to walk ahead.

"I can say it was terrifying to see what could have happened and that was just a starter of what we all went through before arriving at Butler Beck Mine. It think it was our first trip after papa died, so Lee would be less than three years old. It would be after school was out in the spring, or was it a year later I guess because John and maybe Horace were at the mine, and John said he rode a long way to meet us and could not find us, so thought we had waited a day. Little Lee Tom wanted a drink of water, and the wagon did not catch up. The road ahead turned a

hairpin curve and we were on a more level walking, and soon could look down on the family, who shouted to us to come back, there they had tipped over. I still think it was the first spring after papa's death, as John was released from Mission the first spring after, and Lee would be two.

-- Olive.

She was Secretary to the Sunday School in 1906, and in 1908 she was secretary to the Primary.

She liked to sing. She loved music. She had an old pedal pump organ which she liked to play. And she loved to make friends. LaMar says there was a little boy who was crippled that she was friendly with, and after her death he just cried. She was known as a friendly person.

The last several years of her life she had poor health. Most likely caring for Wallace helped to break her health. She developed a goiter in the neck, and it gave her so much trouble. Bailey took her to Soda Springs to a doctor, and possibly for an operation. She died there 24 June 1940, and was buried in Rupert on 28 of June. This was some ten years after Wallace's death.

Her son LaMar was 22 at the time, but was not at home as he had married two years before. Keith was 16.

Eva was a lovely person, loved by all. She had sadness in her life, and they were not blessed with a great deal of this world's goods. Yet I am thinking of this saying "By their fruits ye shall know the," and applied to her I feel that she was a most lovely person. Just look at her two sons and their families.

LaMar was blessed in marrying a lovely girl and together they have had a fine Latter Day Saint home, living here in Boise for many years. They have seven fine children: Orville LaMar, Owen Albert, Darrell Keith, Alan Lee, Carol Ann, Darlene, and Gary Scott. Orville is a fine pianist and is now very near the end of a Mission, in the West German Mission. Owen left for his mission to the Scottish Irish Mission, leaving Sept. 14, 1961. Before his mission was quite over he came down with rheumatic fever, and is now home, coming by Jet plane about two weeks ago. LaMar for years has been Stake Clerk to President D. Keith Ricks, of the West Boise Stake. LaMar's wife Anna is now President of the Relief Society in their ward. A fine L.D.S. family whom I admire very much. LaMar is with the Snake River Mutual Fire Insurance Co. and seems to like his work.

Keith lives in Rupert, married Zola Jenson on 28 February 1946 and they have seven children, at least. I have the names of six: Donald Lynn, Randy Lee, Eva Lynn, Jerry Royce, Leslie Keith, and Shela Kay. Keith works for the Railroad, and also has 20 acres. I don't know them personally, but I understand they are a very fine family. I have a family picture of them taken in 1957, and it is just priceless. All handsome, good looking children.

Eva's husband Bailey remarried and still lives in Rupert. He married Bessie (Roland) Hodges 27 Sept. 1940 in the Logan Temple.

Helen Thurber Dalton, Historian for the John Lowe Butler I. Family Organization.
2451 Menlo Drive, Boise, Idaho
12 February, 1963

19 February 1963:

Aunt Jane B. Neilsen has written today giving another little remembrance of Eva:

"I remember of Eva crossing the river (Malad) on old Bess when the water came clear up to John's fence. Bess plugged along in the water (about a foot deep) and decided to lay down and roll over! Old Bess beat Eva home and when she got there mother had a hard time to keep her from using the axe on old Bess' head. John (our eldest brother) was a tease, so he pled with her "Please don't kill my horse!"

21 February:

Mrs. Blanche Naser today said; "I remember Eva as a lovely, beautiful girl. She was a very nervous, flighty,

high strung, and was frail, more than the others. She was timid too, which was hard for her because of her later illness. After Wallace was gone she really should have had that goiter operated on, but she was so timid she would not consent to the operation. They tried to get her to do it, but she would not consent. Ethel always has thought so much of her, and they were together a lot. Ethel was married about a year after Eva."

24 February 1963:

Aunt Jane wrote that she had received a letter from Lee Tom (Butler) from Stockton, Calif., which verifies the fact that their mother, Nancy Franzetta Smith Butler and her two youngest children, Eva and Lee Tom, camp up to Camas Prairie (Manard) in the fall of 1905, Lee Tom's letter said in part:

"In March 1903 I was six years old and started to school that fall (in Richfield, Utah) with Clay Allred teacher. I just went to school 1 month when he took whooping cough--he was very bad all winter.

"The fall of 1904 I started again and went thru the 1st grade. In the spring of 1905 I was 8 years old, and that September mother, Eva and I went to Idaho. John met us at the train (at Gooding) and took us up to his ranch. After arriving there they sent me to Stott's place to tell Carrie who was visiting there that mother had arrived. (Stotts lived a mile or more away.) K.T. had written about the badgers and badger holes on the Prairie, and I was much concerned about them, as in my mind I had them pictured as looking like a lizard about four feet long. So I took my flipper along, and the trip seemed long thru the sagebrush. When a bunch of sage hens flew up I took a shot and busted my flipper, so had no protection from the badgers!

"That fall in 1905 we went to school in Labrums granary, I think there were three months of school, with Harry McAdams as teacher. That was my second year of school. By the fall of 1906 they had built the little school house on John's land across from Adams. A red head by name of May Griswold was the teacher. I think that Manie Leek, Mrs. Wood and Roy Laird were teachers there.

"The Manard hall was finished in the fall of 1911. I took K.T. to Gooding that fall when he went to Salt Lake City to school, and I brought the lighting plant back for the Manard hall. It was installed and Lee was the first janitor."

Aunt Jane said, "Lyme Dixon said he had charge of building the hall in the summer of 1911, and when he left for school at Oakley, John Butler took over his job. At Christmas time Lyme said the hall was finished, so they had a big Christmas dance. Lee said he thought the Lord had his arms around that hall, or he would have blown it up with that gas lighting plant.

Aunt Jane further said, "Lee reminded me of the time after Eva was married in 1913, Bailey and Eva were at our house (Eva's mother's house), but Bailey had gone to Fir Grove or someplace, and a gang down by the river planned to chivaree (I can't find the work in the dictionary to correctly spell this) them, so they sent Lee up to see if Bailey was back home. He was not back, so Lee took a bed roll and cached it out in the wheat field, then gave a signal to the boys that all was well, then he (Lee) disappeared into the field. We had the old folding bed in the front room. We took it down and Eva and I put a pair of Bailey's pants across a chair, also one of Eva's dresses, then climbed in bed fully dressed and covered up tight. Soon we heard noises outside, so covered up our heads. Soon the door flew open and a bunch of boys burst in calling for Bailey to come with them. We stayed under the covers as long as we would--when they finally pulled the covers off and we got up fully dressed, they were so disappointed and at once started looking for Lee. They searched for a long time, but finally gave up. Lee was peacefully sleeping out in the field.

"We gave them some refreshments. All I remember is that I poured a sparkling drink out of my vinegar jug and offered it to Jess Thurber. He took a swallow and was as disappointed as when they found Bailey was not there.

"Another thing about Eva. Am quite sure it was in the spring of 1907 that Olive and I came back to Idaho. Olive and I cooked for Stott and Adams over at the Monument Gulch shearing corral. Eva was with us, helping with dishes and vegetables. One night she suffered with earache all night long--she looked so pale and bad that next day. She was such a sweet sister. I still grieve for her early passing away.

"K.T. said they did start and put the core in the dam in 1904, when we were in Hailey. I think Jenkins did it. In 1905 I cooked for our boys, was in a tent. Ora Bean cooked for some in a little shack, and Jenkins camp had Amett cook part time and Velma part time."