



## Frederick Starr, Jr. Papers (C2073)

**Collection Number:** C2073

**Collection Title:** Frederick Starr, Jr. Papers

**Dates:** 1850-1863

**Creator:** Starr, Frederick, Jr., 1826-1867

**Abstract:** Starr was a colonizationist, free soiler, and Presbyterian clergyman in Weston, Missouri, 1852-1855. The collection contains correspondence, broadsides, pamphlets, and clippings on settlement of the Kansas-Nebraska Territories, border conflicts, abolitionism vs. slavery, local politics, Indian affairs, public land sales, claims, and prices, popular sovereignty, squatters' rights, and religion on the frontier.

**Collection Size:** 0.42 cubic feet  
(20 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Frederick Starr, Jr. Papers* (C2073); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Lucy Hills Starr in January 1936. Additions were made by Lucy Hills Starr on August 27, 1937 and September 1938.

**Alternate Forms Available:** Digital reproductions of folders 1-3 of the Frederick Starr, Jr. Papers are available online at <https://digital.shsmo.org/digital/collection/frontier/id/286/rec/1>.

**Processed by:** Processed by the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia Staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by Lauren Leeman on April 21, 2020.

**Historical Note:**

Frederick Starr, Jr. was born in New York. His father had a piano manufacturing and sales business in Rochester. Frederick was a Yale graduate and attended Auburn Seminary where he met and married Helen, the daughter of an Auburn professor. They moved to Weston, Missouri, where Frederick was active in community activities as well as religious affairs. He was a colonizationist, free soiler, member of the Leavenworth Association, and a Presbyterian minister. Labeled an abolitionist, he argued his position before the Platte County Self Defensive Association, but was removed from his post in 1855 and forced to flee Weston. He held pastorates in Pennsylvania and the North Presbyterian Church in St. Louis. Between pastorates he made his home in Canandaigua and was financial agent for Auburn Seminary. He died in St. Louis in 1867 and was buried in Auburn, New York. The Starr's had three children, Nell and Harry (born in Weston), and Lucy.

**Scope and Content Note:**

Frederick Starr, Jr.'s papers consist of letters to his father written from Weston, Missouri, 1852-1855; broadsides; pamphlets; and newspaper clippings. The slavery controversy in western Missouri, settlement of the Kansas/Nebraska territories, and Starr's role as an accused abolitionist and free soiler are richly described. Activities of the Platte County Self Defensive Association, the Leavenworth Association, squatters, Mormons and Indians; and Kansas/Missouri border conflicts, politics, and citizens' meetings are covered. The collection is calendared. Arrangement is chronological.

**Container List:**

- f. 1 1852, December 1. [Starr], Frederick, Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Sister Caroline and Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, August 1. [Starr], Frederick, Weston, Platte County, Missouri, to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, August 21. [Starr], Frederick, Weston, [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, September 19. [Starr], Frederick, Weston, Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, October 18. Starr, Frederick, Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, October 30. [Starr, Frederick], Weston [Platte County], Missouri, to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 1 1854, November 29. [Starr, Frederick], [Weston, Platte County, Missouri], to Father "& all the others." [DIGITIZED]
- f. 2 1854, December 1. [Starr], Frederick, [Weston, Platte County, Missouri], to [Father]. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 2 1854, December 29. [Starr, Frederick], Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to [Father]. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 3 1855, January 15. [Starr, Frederick], Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 3 1855, February 22. [Starr], Frederick, Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 3 1855, February 26. [Starr], Frederick, Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]

- f. 3 1855, March 19. [Starr], Frederick, Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 3 1855, March 31. [Starr, Frederick], Weston [Platte County, Missouri], to Father. [DIGITIZED]
- f. 3 [1855, April]. [Starr, Frederick, Weston, Platte County, Missouri, to Father.] [DIGITIZED]
- f. 4 [1852, December 12]. Parkville Presbyterian Church, Parkville, Missouri. Announcement of dedication and order of service.
- f. 4 Undated. U.S. Census. Population: Whites, Free Negroes, Slaves. Number of Farms. Kind of Employment.
- f. 5 1854, July 12. Weston [Missouri] *Sentinel*. A call to the people! Mass meeting, at the Court House, in Weston, on Saturday, July 15, 1854, at 2 o'clock, P.M. Broadside.
- f. 5 1854, August 7. Stringfellow, B.F., Weston, Missouri. An abolition trick exposed! Broadside. Contains: Communications from H. Miles Moore, A.H. Deaver, and Sol. P. McCurdy concurred by J.P. Earickson, from the *Weston Reporter*, and a certification of 22 names which say in part, "In justice to Mr. Stringfellow we state that we were present and heard his speech throughout, and that the foregoing statements of H. Miles Moore, are each and all utterly unfounded."
- f. 5 1854, August 12. Moore, H. Miles, Weston, Missouri. "An abolition trick exposed!" Eh? Broadside. 2 copies. Contains: Communication for the *Weston Reporter* from Moore and certification by citizens of Platte County, Missouri, that the above statements are substantially those made by B.F. Stringfellow in his speech before the Platte County Self Defensive Association, July 29, 1854. 17 signatures.
- f. 5 1854, August 31. Many Citizens. Notice!! The citizens of Weston and vicinity, are hereby notified to meet at the Court House on Friday, 1st September, at 7 o'clock, P.M., to adopt such measures as they may deem most proper and expedient, and best calculated to counteract the effect produced by some of the doings of some of the men connected with the "Platte County Self Defensive Association." Broadside.
- f. 5 1854, September 1. Gist, G.W., and J.B. Evans, Chairman and Secretary, Weston, Missouri. Citizens meeting. 176 signers. Broadside. 3 copies.
- f. 5 1854, September 1. Notice, by Many Citizens. Broadside. The Abolitionists and Free soilers of Weston and vicinity are hereby notified to meet at the Court House on Friday, 1st of September, at 7 o'clock p.m. to adopt such measures as they deem most proper and expedient, and best calculated to Counteract the Effect produced by some of the doings of some of the men connected with the "Platte County Self Defensive Association", Weston, September 1, 1854. Signed by many Citizens.
- f. 5 Undated. Memorial. To the President of the United States: The undersigned, on behalf of the settlers upon lands in Kansas Territory, ceded to the United States in July last, by the Delaware Indians, submit to the President of the United States, this their respectful Memorial. Broadside.
- f. 6 1855, June 4. *Batavia Democrat*. Public meeting. The citizens of Batavia and vicinity are requested to meet at Ellicott Hall, this (Monday) evening at 7 o'clock, and hear an address by the Rev'd. Fred. Starr, Jr., who has been driven from his post in Kansas as a Christian Missionary, (where he

- has resided with his family for five years past), at the bidding and dictation of the slave power. Mr. Starr will address the people on the subject of the recent outrages against the free citizens of Kansas, by which the right of suffrage had been invaded! The Pulpit. Broadside.
- f. 6 1855, March 30. Kansas Election! Qualification of voters. Dissection of the Oath prescribed by the Governor. Broadside. 2 copies.
- f. 7 1863, July 18. Harper's Weekly. The Invasion of the North - Street scenes in Philadelphia. - Sketched by Mr. Thomas Nast (Illus.). Also text - "The invasion of the North."
- f. 7 1863, September 12. Weston *Sentinel Extra*. Broadside. Contains: Mass Meeting at Platte City. Immediate Emancipation. The Result of this Strife - Extirpation of Slavery.
- f. 8 1855. Leavenworth Association, Kansas Territory. A letter from the original members of the Leavenworth Association, K.T., to Hon. Jefferson Davis, secretary of the War Department. Printed by Finch & O'Gorman, Reporter Office, Weston, Missouri, 1855. Pamphlet, 8 pp.
- f. 8 1855, February 14. U.S. 33rd Congress, 2nd Session, 1854-1855. Report of the Secretary of War, in compliance with A resolution of the Senate, of February 10, 1855, calling for correspondence relative to the military reservation at Fort Leavenworth. February 14, 1855 - Read, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed. Pamphlet, 32 pp.
- f. 9-20 1854-1867, n.d. Newspaper clippings. Missionary work in the Platte Purchase; views and opinions on slavery and abolition in Missouri and Kansas; Mormonism; address by Rev. Frederick Starr at Presbyterian Church, Thanksgiving Day; the beginnings of Leavenworth; squatters' meetings; the Kansas Nebraska Act; Self Defensive Association meetings; problems with Indians.

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