



Franklin Hudson Letter (K0199)

Collection Number: K0199

Collection Title: Franklin Hudson Letter

Dates: circa 1908

Creator: Hudson, Franklin, 1847-1928

Abstract: The Franklin Hudson Letter is a single, undated letter written by Hudson to the editor of the *Kansas City Journal* encouraging the establishment of a playground and park in Kansas City.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(1 folder)

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-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Franklin Hudson Letter* (K0199); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

Donor Information: The correspondence was transferred to the University of Missouri by the General Library of the University of Missouri-Kansas City on October 24, 1980 (Accession No. KA0054).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Franklin Hudson Letter can be found in the following collections:

Robert M. Snyder, Jr. Collection (K0025)

Processed by: Processed by Whitney Heinzmann, December 2017

Biographical Note:

Franklin Hudson was born September 16, 1847, in Salem, Ohio, the son of John Hudson, publisher of the *Anti-Slavery Bugle*. After service with the 10th Kansas Volunteers during the Civil War, Hudson came to Kansas City in November 1865. In 1866, he was the first graduate of the Spalding Business College, and soon after became the business manager of the *Kansas City Journal* under Robert T. Van Horn. Within a few years, however, Hudson left the paper to become a partner with the Ramsey, Millett, and Hudson Printing Company. This firm continued for thirteen years whereupon Hudson established and became the principal owner of the Hudson-Kimberly Publishing Company, later renamed the Franklin Hudson Publishing Company. Hudson's experience and reputation in the publishing industry lead to his election in 1900, as president of the United Typothetae of the United States, the leading publishers' organization in the country.

In 1905, Hudson was appointed president of the Kansas City Park Commissions by Mayor Jay Neff. Two years later, he received a second appointment to that position.

Franklin Hudson died at his home on April 12, 1928, at the age of 81 years.

Arrangement:

The collection contains a single item.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains a single, undated letter written by Franklin Hudson to the editor of the *Kansas City Journal* encouraging the establishment of a playground and park in Kansas City. Franklin Hudson was president of the Board of Park Commissioners from 1905 to 1909. In 1909, Garrison Square at 5th and Troost and Columbus Square (then called Washington Square) at Holmes and Missouri Avenue, were acquired by the City through condemnation. It is assumed these areas are the lands discussed by Hudson in his letter.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Correspondence, Franklin Hudson to *Kansas City Journal*, circa 1908

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Parks--Missouri--Kansas City	1