INTRODUCTION

DONOR INFORMATION
The letter was part of a transfer from the General Library of the University of Missouri-Kansas City on 10/24/1980 (KA0054). The letter is believed to have been collected by Robert M. Snyder, Jr. and sold to the University in the mid-1940s.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Jessie Benton Fremont, authoress, daughter of Senator Thomas Hart Benton and wife of John Charles Fremont, was born 31 May 1824 near Lexington, Virginia. Much of her childhood was spent in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. In 1841 she met and married Fremont, then a Lieutenant in the Topographical Corps.

An avid defender of her husband's career, Mrs. Fremont often actively interceded on his behalf with her father's political friends. This was the case during the Civil War when on one occasion she attempted to argue with the President in support of her husband. Her anxiety and bitterness regarding Fremont's stormy military service is expressed in her 1863 book, *The Story of the Guard: A Chronicle of the War*.

The Fremonts spent their last years in California. John Fremont died in 1890. Jessie Benton Fremont continued to live in Los Angles with her daughter until her own death on December 27, 1902.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE
The collection consists of a single letter dated December 4 [1862?] and was likely written to the firm of Ticknor and Fields in Boston, Massachusetts, publishers of Fremont’s 1863 book, *The Story of the Guard: A Chronicle of the War*. Fremont asks to
have several advanced copies of the book sent to her as soon as they are available. She also complains about the inappropriate use of some maps and illustrations in the volume.

PREFERRED CITATION
Specific item; box number; folder number; Jessie Benton Fremont (1824-1902) Letter (K0215); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

FOLDER LIST
f. 1 Jessie Benton Fremont letter, ca. 1962

LOCATION NOTE
The collection is stored offsite (062870) and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

SUBJECT TERMS
Publishers and publishing
Snyder Collection of Americana
United States – History – Civil War, 1861-1865