

Bark Daniel Webster Dec. 8th 1877 No 7
W. C. N. Swift Esq.
New Bedford

Dear Mrs. Swift

Since leaving Fayal - two weeks ago yesterday - have had very stormy weather, thick and rainy nearly all the time - have seen nothing. We are bound to Dominica for water and then to Neatenilla Reef, hope to get there about the 1st. of Jan. propose cruising there until about March 1st. and be at St. Georges Bermuda by the mid of May. Should you send in care of J. S. Darrell, provisions, recruits &c. please request him to notify the Pilots of about the number of bbls of Merchandise shipped for Dan. Webster. By doing this I may save expense.

In order to continue the voyage for three years from date of sailing I shall require shipped out 75 bbls of Salt Provisions, 20 bbls Flour & large casks of Bread & 500 lbs of Butter.

To continue for 4 years or until the Spring of 1881 I shall require 150 bbls. salt provisions, 50 bbls. Flour about 14 casks of Bread & 900 bbls of Butter. These figures are as near as I can determine now. No doubt they may be modified considerably by and by.

The above does not include the 50 bbls of Potatoes to be shipped to Bermuda next March.

Unless you think proper to ship a part of my provisions to Bermuda next March I propose you ship a part or enough to carry me up to Spring of 1880 - to St. Michaels by the 1st of Sept. Unless I am doing well I want to leave the Morris Ground by that time for the U.S.

You will please give me your views in full at Bermuda in regard to time of leaving for the South, and if you can obtain abstracts from Capt. J. A. Howland of this his cruise I should like them also, please get them as full as possible.

Should you sell my shipment of oil from Fayal please remit to Brother Benjamin C. Borden of Fall River the balance due me after deducting my indebtedness to you for and on account of Bk. Daniel Webster and Sir Oblige.

Yours most truly
G. B. Borden

Bark Daniel Webster Dec. 28th 1877
Brother Benjamin

I suppose you will be expecting a letter from me soon so I will try and not disappoint you. No doubt you are having cold weather about this time, while we are having it very hot. We are on our way to Neatenilla Reef - within two days sail of there. - you will find the Reef to be the N.W. extremity of the Bahamas, near the coast of Florida.

We left the island of Dominica one week ago yesterday with 10 minutes of fresh water and lots of fruit. We took fruit for the purpose of trading it for sweet Potatoes at the island of Neatenilla. But the winds coming out ahead we could not get up to that island, and consequently we have the fruit now rotting on our hands.

We have any amount of nice large sweet oranges, that cost only 24 cts per 100, and that in the way of trade. I think them the best I ever saw. We also have lots of nice Bananas rotting, and are throwing them overboard by the 1000. I only wish you had some at home.

My shipment of oil from Fayal may be sold on its arrival in N. B. in which case I have requested W. C. N. Swift to remit to you the balance due me.

Which he will probably do by 1st. If you do not think best to do so please notify him, and he will pay over the amount to your order or to you as you may direct. I do not expect the oil to arrive until

Mar. or April. you can invest the amount in mill stock or otherwise as you may think to my advantage, or deposit the same in Savings Bank in my name. We are all well hoping this may find you all the same. - my love to Mother Mary & the children. P. A. sends love to all.

Bertie is well and growing nicely - write me to Bermuda by the mid of March and Oblige

Yours Brother
Gilbert