

William C.N. Swift correspondence

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Swift, William Cole Nye, 1815-1892.
Title:	William C.N. Swift correspondence
Dates:	1839
Extent:	0.05 cubic feet (1 folder)
Identification:	MS 0782

Biographical/Historical Note

William C.N. Swift (b. 1815) was born in Fairhaven, Massachusetts. He attended Brown University but did not graduate. He worked as a bookkeeper in Benjamin Rodman's counting room until 1835, when he joined his father in the live oak trade firm of E. and R. Swift and Co. Swift traveled to Ossabaw Island, Georgia to supervise the gathering of live oak. He continued his travels throughout the South surveying land and purchasing live oak lots. He was a passenger on the steamship Pulaski when she sank in 1838. In 1843, Swift bought a whaling ship and started the agency of Aiken and Swift shortly thereafter. On June 15, 1847, he married Eliza Perry. He was a delegate for Massachusetts at the Democratic National Conventions in 1860 and 1864.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of two letters. One letter is written by Mrs. Reuben Swift to her son, William C.N. Swift. Mrs. Swift writes from Newbedford, Massachusetts, for her husband and names places in the Georgia coastal area where live oak timber can be found. William Swift was in Riceboro, Georgia. The second letter is from William Swift to his mother, dated Savannah, 1839. In the letter, Swift expresses concern for her health and tells of live oak timber operations on Colonels Island, St. Catherines Island, St. Simons Island, and the Screven (spelled "Scriven) estate.

Index Terms

Colonel's Island (Ga.)
Families--Massachusetts.
Letters (correspondence)
Live oak.
Lumber trade.
Saint Catherines Island (Ga.)
Saint Simons Island (Ga.)
Swift, William Cole Nye, 1815-1892.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Purchased from Symmachus Trading Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

Preferred Citation

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Acquisition Information

Purchased, 1950 and 1953.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

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Sponsorship

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Container List

Item 1: Mrs. Reuben Swift to her son, William C.N. Swift. Newbedford, Mass., 1839
February 15 (3.0 p.)

Writes for her husband, naming places in the Georgia coastal area where live oak timber can be found.

Item 2: William C.N. Swift to his mother. Savannah, 1839 March 8 (2.0 p.)

Expresses concern for her health; tells of live oak timber operations on Colonels Island, St. Catherines Island, St. Simons Island, and the Screven estate.