

"The Times"?

London Feb 2. 1871

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Dear Anna

I was very glad to get your long interesting letters, by Cunard mail yesterday morning, as I had nothing from you last week & Mamma said she had heard nothing since she wrote before. I am very glad you have been enjoying yourself at Toronto so much, I hope you will not find it dull at home after so much excitement, religious & otherwise. I sometimes see the "Times" when I go out for lunch, & while the Siege of Paris lasted, it was quite a curiosity. Washbourne, the U.S. minister was the only ambassador who stayed in the city, & his weekly bundle of dispatches were the only communications allowed to pass in. As the "Times" was included in these, French papers & others having friends in Paris,

hit upon the plan of advertising whatever  
they wished to say to their besieged friends  
in the Times, & generally adding a request  
that, Mrs Washbourne would ~~send~~ them  
forward the intelligence to them. Latterly  
the whole first page of the Times was covered  
with such advertisements, so that it must  
have been quite a task to deliver the message.

You say I sometimes only send you little  
scraps, which is quite true, but then you  
must remember that you only have to write  
me letters, while I have to answer two or three  
every mail, which not only takes much  
more time, but, requires an amazing  
fund of news. Please excuse this  
"little scrap", as I have already written  
so much. I will Very best love both  
to yourself personally & all at home.

Believe me

Ever your affectionate

Brother

George

(P.S. - Mrs. Washbourne)