E. W. I think

Dublin, 74, Abbey Street
Feb. 18 - 1871

My dear friend

The last time I heard from you, you asked me to write to you, but I have not done so. The truth is that knowing how occupied & distressed you were likely to be by the terrible events of the war, so disastrous to France & to Paris where you spend so much pleasant time & had so many friends, I did not like to intrude on you with my gossiping letters in which I could tell you little that you cared to read under present circumstances. Nor have I written to Caroline either & for the same reason – But you have been very much in my thoughts. Mrs Mary of Lincoln in a letter I had from her told me she saw you in London & how much pleasure it gave her to meet you. I had two letters from her from Rome. She spoke of going to Sicily in one of them – & now I do not know where she & Miss Frothingham have flown to. Mr Mary wrote to me he wd not wonder if they did not stop short of Egypt – & if they go there, why not go on to

Jerusalem? I occasionally hear from Frank Garrison & from my Lancaster friends – also from Detroit & Philadelphia. I had a letter from Lucretia Mott very lately – but on the whole letters have been few of late. E.L. sends me the Daily Tribune (!) In a late number I found a most interesting memoir of Thomas Garrett of Wilmington who died on the 25th of January & had an immense funeral attended by great numbers of his darky clients. If you would care to see the account I will be glad to send it to you – but I wd like it back again. I am happy to say I paid him two visits when I was in America – He was a man of as noble a face & presence as I have ever seen

Mrs daughter & I live at 137, Lancaster Road in this suburb. We have a good house, plainly furnished – but we have 2 or 3 beds at the service of ~~[illegible]~~ friends. I am greatly limited in my walking powers by the accident that befel me on Lake Superior. She is not strong, nor is she likely ever to be robust

I endure a life which with those you think something is doing here to relieve the distress in France & more particularly in Paris. Besides these subscriptions of nearly

£5000, nearly £2500 has been collected by Cardinal Cullen & forwarded for distribution to the French Bishops. I expect a good deal more will come in.

Anything you are willing to take me for your two families in London & one in Weymouth or I about yourself will be very acceptable to.

Yours affectionately

Rich D Webb

I think this is written

nice & you for their letter on Webb's part.

Emma told me some time since, but I forgot it. To change you to make no use of Electricity in respect to Newry's case as she thought it very dangerous.

I am very much obliged for the cutting from N.Y. Post about John Brown. Everything about Brown interests me. Partly for his own sake. Partly as connected with my paper memoir. She had such veneration for him & did so much to help me in preparing the life of him which was translated into the vernacular from Redpath with Higo. Can you tell me is the J.E.B. Stuart who is represented as having addressed Brown so brutally as he lay wounded the same who was afterward a noted Confederate general? If so, I wonder what he thought now.

I send you rolls of cuttings occasionally such as I think may be relied on as fair exponents of the state of things here. One of the most difficult things is for the writer of one country to comprehend the actual condition & modes of thought in another. I am continually amazed at the obtuseness which prevails here - the ignorance & absolutely inexplicable - & likewise of the English about Ireland.

In fact few people think. They are chiefly parrots. And I am often tempted to think the idea of human beings being accountable creatures is absurd in the face of the manifest resemblance between them and a flock of sheep. See how Germany & France are both of them spent of hatred & murder & ale ready to burst out afresh in a few months while ever when age cannot cure. I looked with horror to the outbreak of this war in the certain expectation that this would be so.

When this war is over I anticipate a prodigious increase in the emigration to America, in the forced exposure of the people from the terrible misery to which they are liable from the Dogs of War.

The money collected for the wounded soldiers of both arms was a national one - I mean very general - & amounted to $1.000.000

That collected for the War Victims Fund & managed by the Soc. of Friends was for the French Benevolent chiefly & came to $100.000