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Vernon Lee: Letters Home

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7-23-1885

Violet Paget (Kensington, England) to Matilda Paget (Bagni di Lucca, Italy)

Vernon Lee (Violet Paget)

Matilda Paget

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Kensington July 23. 85

Dear mamma. I could not
write yesterday because of
going to the Museum & its
being my Wednesday also

Amwin has behaved very badly.
After giving of giving me £75 &
quite easily raising it to
£100, and writing me two
letters about date & number
of vols. on that understanding,
after my having accepted.

Every hour the agreement is
signed, he now says he can't
give me more than £70!

I have written him a very
severe letter, as I consider
it as a more attempt to cheat
me. How will it end?)

Don't know. But it has
annoyed me beyond measure.

Tuesday I met at the
Robinsons that young
Fiskman ~~Scotch~~ ^{Scotch} man
with the orange lock, who
has written a very
successful (5 editions)
realistic novel of the
Isla sort. It appears that
his case, furious with
Lundie's having refused
on grounds of impotency,
& ~~for~~ ^{for} any of his novel,
has made a pamphlet
containing the story

passage of his novel and
an ~~anth~~ anthology of
the most improper passages
of all the novels which
has ever taken - You can
imagine that such a
speculation would be a
good one! Into this charming
collection he put various
fragments of his Brown.
The thing was interesting & he
requested Mary to review
the left B. parts. The
unmediatedness is

on his withdrawing
all quotations from his
Book which he did quite
amiably. Then she kept it
dark from me. I
do not think his proceeding
was fair. It was unjust
to the ~~all~~ other unfortunate
gathered into G. Moore's
dirty collection who
had no share to help
them, and it put me in
a disagreeable sort
of position towards

G. Moore; as owing to his
obliqueness towards me
personally, I can't treat
him as he had his.

(Mr. Morrison with me
has shot hoarse and of).

My friend says Miss B is the
finest novel written in the
last ten years. But I don't
give much for Northwood's
opinion, as he is largely
a hoax.

Yesterday Mary came & helped
me to receive my guests. I
thought there were 10 women.
But Mr. Barrow, Mrs.
Crouley & Maclean came, &

to my intense surprise
Henry James, who stayed
two hours more, &
asked whether he might
see me alone on Friday.

I think he is really
most conscientiously
sorry for not having written
about Mrs B, and
is making violent efforts
to repair.
We talked a great deal about
my library prospects.

The necessity of my
seeing more of England.
I think he asked to see
me alone because he
felt that he couldn't make
his remarks about the
receipt of my seeing a
widow range of paper before
Mary.

Mary & I dined

with Evelyn Robinson,

who is very agreeable.

I believe W. & George

is a very nice man,
she has known him
a long time, & if he
can keep clear
of his trouble sister
it will be a good thing
for her, as her life
must be very lonely.

Mary & I shall be alone
at Fare's Terrace for 10
days before from the 17. I
am glad. We shall see
John, H. Jane & Mrs. Callender
conspicuously.

I really have 'nt time nor strength
to write to Frank, I am sure of
brother, H. H. H. - Somewhere W