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Vernon Lee: Letters Home

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6-4-1887

Violet Paget (Paris, France) to Matilda Paget (Florence, Italy)

Vernon Lee (Violet Paget)

Matilda Paget

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7 Rue N. S. du Champ. Paris
Jan 14th 1887

Dearst Mamma - I received
a letter from you this morning
(enclosing one from Lisa). I am
exceedingly sorry to hear about
that German woman: it seems
such an opportunity missed.
But, at this moment we still
seem hopeful & I don't see
what else we could have done.

Have you had any
post cards: one from Maura,
one from Bette & one from
here on arrival. This is really
a delightful place if only it
were not so fearful at the
other end. I have two excellent
little persons looking onto a
green garden full of birds.
The eating is good, & services

apart; and the people who
are mainly serious

I'll favour young females
attending night training classes
or courses on the technical school
are quite enjoyable. The
quatermen also are pleasant,
but I am too much out
to return.

Yesterday morning I got
a most kind telegram from
Nellie Reed, which was
almost immediately followed
by Nellie Reed herself: a
cheerful, excitable, wildly
enthusiastic Miss Pageton, if
you can grasp that (By the

was, my next business ^{with}
was to Miss Poynter as
soon as I came home,
I never saw such a
fervent & glowing
of course she had
avoid of mine not even the
famous article in the Review,
but she informs me that
found & she that I am
la femme la plus célèbre
de l'Angleterre! I told her
that would not be said
much. She carried me
off instantly, I was
to hear a nice, white
half-paralyzed old party
lecture on the Gospels at

In Coligny at France. What committee
there was between myself and
them & Napoleon I don't know
but I was interested in the whole
thing. After this I included
took me to see an exhibition
of pictures on the wall,
I had me to buy a machine
at the house only on
the promise to get see
with her mother after five.
This I did. They live & in
a tiny house on the Boulevard
Mormain. A tiny bare
drawing room full of
books, with a lot of
père Jean in a circle

I catch impatient to speak.
 Some called a cald woman, French
 a young Ropian woman, a
 Romanian man, an expert of
 a cup of the Record -
 much the same world as
 at the antitactic, or say,
 the Gossie on poor days:
 but these grow to people
 have stiff manners &
 extraordinary elegance
 of speech. They all talk
 of Baudelaire as if he
 were the last new thing;
 and expatiate upon
 an article of Brunetiere
 against him, as if

of over the most important
thing in the world.

Sam total, Appary medicinal
is known all the world
over. But Mrs. Read

is really too friendly.

I dined with the Panniers,
also a Queen Box - St Germain.

But quite another style
of things. Infinitely
new, socially, intellectually
& morally. They are
delightful, husband,
wife & children.

seem to attract each other.
But she reads English, makes
music together, and, with
their little bags, a very
young healthy life.

He is a remarkable
delightful creature, about
35, thin, blind, but
energetic, healthy, masculine,
with something a little like
Ceceoni. Talked admirably,
with a idealism, a
moral fibre, & an
extraordinary moral
clannishness: he looks
Bourgeois, mais aperant the

as an Englishman's
but better expressed. They
were charming from the
on my returning to dine
on Monday. Tomorrow
we go to the park together.

This morning I went to
hisalon with the P. Ralph
Carta, one more dull
than the other. In the
afternoon I'll read

with me & Mrs. Ackermann.
This is a draft of a
and looking at
lots of insipid conversation,
being in a more modern

Little apartment in the house
 where Miss Fane lived.
 They say she is the only
 female poet of the world,
 apparently the only one there
 has ever been! Lettwinman
 has just brought me his
 book. He was here, &
 has just been to see me
 after our horribly early
 dinner: a quiet, weighty,
 kindly, moderate man.
 I must post this now,
 if it's too late this evening,
 so good night, & soon
 Love me

Italia

3246

M^{rs} Payer

Via Garibaldi
Firenze

Firenze

R. VEU

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PARIS

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FRANCE
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1887