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Vernon Lee: Letters Home

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6-21-1887

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

Vernon Lee (Violet Paget)

Matilda Paget

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13 Edward St. 21st June 1887

Dear mamma - I am so awfully, awfully sorry about this house burning, & I feel horrible as if I had let you in for it. Do tell me how you arrange things. Also I feel a pig for not having written before. But I have literally not had a moment.

To resume. ^{Sat} ~~Friday~~ morning I included at Mrs. Jennie's: and behold that wonderful woman had actually prepared a party of Socialists for me! Noting left man Stephen (the "Underground Russia" sceptical man) and Kendman. There was also Carnieper. I had along talk with Kendman. He is a truly man, has been a street broker & now goes up

all the moment time is
a great crusade of socialism
among the working class.

He says that unless the
working class gets agitated
about its own grievances

the Revolution is sanguine,
and it is, but Morrison
previous evening had said

there was no chance
of the 'Reds' winning 'the
clashes' won't 'budge'.

It is always all storm
and lightning. He is an intelligent,
kindly, but very cocky
& 'whop' man, but I found

him immensely exaggerate
his own & his party's
importance. Stepiak

is a mild, dreamy Russian

evidently having returned but
didn't do it by his own at
Rushmore nursery.

That ~~on~~ afternoon I met
Mr Baird: a nice woman.

In the evening I dined all
alone with Alice Calender;
and shall I own it? thought
her the most intelligent &
discreet woman of any one
I have lately met. She has
been very ill all winter, either
in bed, or confined to the
house. Her family affairs
are very unpropitious she
won't be able to come to
Rushmore yet.

Sunday is still the day

with the ~~English~~ ~~and~~ ~~was~~ in
a delightful old house at
Kudru, a village north of
Kampot Road, about twenty
to miles & miles away. He
is a pleasant, clever man, a
handicraftsman who has taken to
artistic bookbinding. Annie
Cotton is much improved
by her marriage, & she has
two nice babies. There was
a Mr. Lane there, a
great electrical inventor and
a tremendous expert of
Mr. Kingford. He was
quite taken in by Buddhism
& is trying to -

himself into indifference
attitudes & preparation for
spiritual life. He

5, Via Garibaldi,
Florence.

seems quite sane. By
the way Emily Fordwain
me to meet lady M^t Temple.

I got home just in time
from Newdon to sleep

for the evening. It was
a big dinner party. Betty
was there. I talked

most of the evening with a
lady Dorothy Newk, who's a delightful

& an old aunt Lord Kinnaird's

& I was taken in to
dinner by M^r Chamberlain

Excusez-moi, please! He is
the most odious creature
I ever met: false, conceited,
knowing nothing & unclean.
He took poor headman
but not at all with
an easy mind, clearly.

Yesterday Monday
~~we~~ gave lunch to the
beautiful Miss Sellers
(who has asked me to
Cambridge) & saw
Sally Blomfield. Then

went to Aird's. Lady Dolly
was there, Lady Shrewsbury
& Lord Lyttelton & Frank
Schuster. I dined with
the Robinsons (the
Parents in the country.
at ten this morning) &
was in Lord Wolseley's
room at Melwood. Pia
kept away at 3. The
W's. were at the Abbey.
The Alingtons (my
old Editor) & some
other nice people were
here. The Reception

was very depressed, but
quit without the aid
of the flower papers,
how I must rush off
to supper with the
hacmitans close by.

I go from Sat. to Monday
& Miss Peto near
Tambudja Well

Sunderland

W. P.

Stals

Mrs Payer

Farmacia della Villa

Bagni ai Lucca

Falci

8356

