“… with profitable & joyous converse”:

an appreciation from the other side of “the pond”.

David Taylor, MA, Phd, FSA
david@taylorcobham.co.uk
Vernon Lushington to William Bell Scott
10th August 1887

Mark Samuels Lasner Collection
University of Delaware Library
To W. B.

Fond of the sunshine, all the blessed breeze, 
Now sheltered in the fold of kind Kindred. 
Where kindred sit upon her wide, wide. 
Two friends call you; health and heart's sunshine. 
They wish you — can you guess his name? {

We from this happy work date our good will, {
Not from Elysian plains, from heaven above hill, 
Ecclesiastical poets, painters all ably fine, 
Keep company with you: Shakespeare, Byron, 
Chambers, Bellamy, Scott, and great King James of Scotland, writing now, and many more whose very names do glow: 
May Dante too; still, let's misunderstand. To understand, some might grumble.
“A Genius For Friendship”
Mrs Vernon Lushington
D.G. Rossetti
Tate Britain
Dr Stephen Lushington
William Holman Hunt
National Portrait Gallery
The Home Quartette: Mrs Vernon Lushington and her Daughters
Arthur Hughes
Private Collection
“eschew vain boasting and vain imaginations, eschew what flatters in us the common and ignoble, and approve things that are truly excellent.”

Matthew Arnold