

O blest

How things bind themselves together! the last time I saw the fountain of Tevi, it was from Arthur's father's room - Joseph Scamis, - where we both took Louisa to see him, in 1872 - and the old man made a sweet drawing of his pretty daughter in lace, now in her nursery; he himself then began a finishing his last picture of the Marriage in Cana, which he had caused to take place under a vine trellis and delighted himself by painting the crystal & ruby glittering of the changing ripples of water out of the great oak, ^{glowing} flushing ^{+ under the same roof} into wine. Faute Branda I last saw with Charles Norton, - where Dante saw it - we drew of it together and walked together that evening on the hills above where the fireflies among the scented thickets ^{shone} buzzed fitfully in the still unbroken air - How they shone! moon like firebrands starting through the ^{purple} ~~dark~~ leaves, - How they shone! through the ~~thickets~~ roses that faded into themselves night as I entered Siena, three days before; - the white edges of the mountains in clouds still lighted from the rear ^{and}, the specky golden sky with calm behind the gate of Scia's heart - with its still golden words "La magia tibi Siena parla" - and the fireflies everywhere in sky & cloud rising & falling, mixed with the lightning and more ^{indeed} bright ^{indeed} than the stars.

Read

Brantwood. - ~~18th June~~

19th June; 1889.