SCOTT, WILLIAM BELL (1811-1890) A painter, poet, and art critic, William Bell Scott contributed chiefly to art periodicals in London and Edinburgh from 1834 until his death. His poetry* first appeared in the Monthly Repository* (1846) and the seminal 'little magazine' the Germ* ('Morning Sleep' and 'Early Aspirations' Jan.-April 1850), after which he became closely associated with members of the Pre-Raphaelite movement, especially John Everett Millais* and Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

Best known as a painter and poet, Scott was master of the Newcastle-on-Tyne design school (1843-1864) and art examiner at South Kensington (1864-1885). In his role as a painter, teacher and art critic, he helped to foster a resurgence of interest in the history of England and the revival of disused techniques from earlier times. In his journalism, Scott reported on mural decoration, art copyright*, and the work of his fellow artists in specialized organs such as the Sessional Papers of the Royal Academy of British Architects (1867-1868), as well as writing for more general periodicals including Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine* and the Athenaeum*. He also published five books of poetry and 12 monographs. TT
Sources: DNB, ODNB, Rowley et al 1883, Scott 1867, Scott 1892.