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Journal de Berthe Noufflard après la mort de Miss Paget - 23 Septembre 1936

Auteurs : Noufflard, Berthe

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Etat général du documentBon

Les folios

En passant la souris sur une vignette, le titre de l'image apparaît.

3 Fichier(s)

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[amitié](#), [Deuil](#), [Oeuvres de VL](#), [Portrait](#)

Dossier génétique

Ce document n'a pas de relation indiquée avec un autre document du projet.

Texte & Analyse

AnalyseBerthe Noufflard rapporte les souvenirs d'Ethel Smyth au sujet de Vernon Lee.

Contributeur(s)

- Geoffroy, Sophie (édition scientifique)
- Walter, Richard (édition numérique)

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Persons citedSmyth, Ethel

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23 septembre 1986

As Time went on 1893 - Ethel Smyth
p. 246

At a certain luncheon party there was a memorable round between him (Harry Brewster) and Vernon, following an apparently innocent remark of his, not even addressed to her, to the effect that what he admired in Shakespeare was le fond, rather than la forme.
"Pray, are you not aware, Mr Brewster, asked Vernon, that what you have just said is consummate nonsense?" - "and what, said Harry in his smoothest manner, what, besides being extremely

Zude, is the drift
of that remark?"

"The drift, replied the
dauntless Vernon with added scathingness,
is that surely every intelligent person
is aware that le fond and la forme
are co-substantiate?" The enuncia-
tion of the last word was so indescri-
bably funny that two or three of us
began to laugh, and fortunately laughter
lays the dust of many a pitched battle.

Sometimes her reactions to particularly
well-meant features were equally comic.
For instance I once endeavoured to
express in a letter my unbounded
admiration for one of the most perfect,
also the most insidiously terrifying
things she ever wrote, called "Dionysius

in the Englewood Hills, and in acknowledging
this epistle she remarked, "When you appre-
ciate a thing best — and you are a great
appreciator, dear Ethel — you rather
buy the life out of it, and hold it up,
an inanimate rag doll rather than a
solidly carved idol, in your triumphant
arms." . . .