

OBITUARY

LADY SMYTH

By the death of Lady Smyth the Society has lost one of its best friends. It is the end of an association with the name of Smyth which dates from the very beginning, as the famous Admiral W. H. Smyth (author of *Aedes Hartwellianæ* and many other works), was one of the earliest members and contributed several breezy, if not very scientific, letters to early numbers of the *Records*. His son, General Sir Henry A. Smyth, K.C.M.G., F.S.A., and the late Lady Smyth jointly took a great and active interest in our Society since 1901. They showed themselves to be generous benefactors to the Museum, all the Egyptian collection and some of the cases being amongst their major gifts. Sir Henry died in 1906 and his widow succeeded him as a Vice-President. From that time until quite recently she was seldom absent from meetings of the Council, and took a very deep and practical interest in every form of the Society's welfare. This generous attitude was continued to the last, for in her will she bequeathed the sum of £500 to the Society. It will be remembered that so recently as 1925 she kindly entertained members at the close of the Annual Excursion in the beautiful grounds of St. John's Lodge, Stone. Constant and sincere as was her interest in the Society, it was but one of her many activities in the County, all the social movements of the neighbourhood found a ready friend in Lady Smyth.