

MEMORIALS OF LADY BRASSEY.



LADY BRASSEY.

It was with a deep sense of almost personal loss that the readers of this MAGAZINE heard of the tragic death of the late Lady Brassey. Thrice she laid the readers of this periodical under deep obligation by her kind permission to reprint the substance of her interesting volumes, and by generously furnishing the exquisite engravings by which they were illustrated. It is with a melancholy pleasure that we place before our readers the following sketch of the beauti-

ful and useful life of this estimable lady.

Lady Brassey was the elder daughter of the late John Allnutt, of Berkeley Square, London. She lost her mother when she was little more than an infant, and from the time that she could walk and talk until she married she and her father were inseparable.

Her father had been a famous rider in his younger days, and his taste and talents for horsemanship descended to his daughter. From the time she was little more than five years old Miss Allnutt and her white pony were well known to the country round Penshurst. In 1860 she was married to Mr. Thomas (now Lord) Brassey.

Lady Brassey was a woman of extreme energy; there was nothing she disliked more than to have no immediate object of action before her. So long as she was in health she wished to be up and doing something tangible. She was an active member of the St. John's Ambulance Association, and assisted in forming several classes or centres. She passed the South Kensington School of Cookery (scullery department and all), and took a first-class certificate therein; she was a Dame of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Few ladies of the fashionable world got through as much work in a week as Lady Brassey often accomplished in a day. Her friends have known her spend a day at Normanhurst in this way: Correct proof sheets for printer, and interview head servants as to orders for the day, before break-