

ries, mighty as they were, to beat him from the field. His eloquence, occasionally rapid, electric, vehement, was always chaste, winning, and persuasive, not awing into acquiescence, but arguing into conviction. His understanding was bold and comprehensive: nothing seemed too remote for its reach, or too large for its grasp. Unallured by dissipation, and unswayed by pleasure, he never sacrificed the national treasure to the one, or the national interest to the other. To his unswerving integrity, the most authentic of all testimony is to be found in that unbounded public confidence which followed

him throughout the whole of his political career.

Absorbed as he was in the pursuits of public life, he did not neglect to prepare himself in silence for that higher destination, which is at once the incentive and reward of human virtue. His talents, superior and splendid as they were, never made him forgetful of that eternal wisdom from which they emanated. The faith and fortitude of his last moments were affecting and exemplary. In his forty-seventh year, and in the meridian of his fame, he died on the twenty-third of January, one thousand eight hundred and six.

VARIETIES.

STEAM GUN.

On the 29th October, 1826, M. Besetzny, a native of Austrian Silesia, made some experiments at Presburg with a steam gun of his invention, in presence of a great assemblage of military men, who were astonished at its extraordinary power. The furnace of iron plate which contains the steam boiler has the form of an alembic, and holds twenty (pots?). It rests upon a frame having two wheels. This machine, with all its apparatus, and carrying 2,000 balls, can easily be dragged by one man on a level road. The barrel which receives the balls through a funnel is fixed by some mechanism to the right of the furnace. In fifteen minutes the steam is sufficiently raised to bring the engine into play. Each movement of the handle disengages a ball; and the discharges succeed each other so quickly, that they scarcely can be counted. Every one of the balls pierced a plank three-quarters of an inch thick, at the distance of eighty paces; and many pierced a second plank, of the same thickness, at the distance of 150 paces. M. B. expects to bring this machine to a much higher degree of perfection, and the details will be communicated to the public.

THE LATIN AND GREEK LANGUAGES.

It is supposed by many that the only object in learning the Latin and Greek languages is, that the learner may be able to translate them, and to understand the authors who have written in those languages, with as much facility as he can understand those who write in his own. If this were really the only object, then every plan for expediting the acquisition would be received with grateful approbation. Yet if this were the sole object, how superfluous to the greater number of learners the labour of the acquisition, for there is not a single idea expressed by the ancients, and yet to be found, which has not been translated in our own language. The end of learning these languages then must be something beyond, and if this farther object be not considered, the education must be defective.—*Scargill's Essays.*

SWALLOWS.

THE swallows of Sweden, at the approach of winter, plunge into the lakes, and remain there asleep, and buried under the ice, till the return of spring. Then, awakened by the returning heat, they leave the water, and resume their usual flight. While the lakes are frozen, if the