

## VARIETIES.

THE RULING PASSION STRONG IN  
DEATH.

ALL through Ireland, the ceremonial of wakes and funerals is most punctually attended to, and it requires some *savoir faire* to carry through the arrangement in a masterly manner. A great adept at the business, who had been the prime manager at all the wakes in the neighbourhood for many years, was at last called away from the deathbeds of his friends to his own. Shortly before he died, he gave minute directions to his people, as to the mode of waking him in proper style. "Recollect," says he, "to put three candles at the head of the bed, after you lay me out, and two at the foot, and one at each side. Mind now, and put a plate with the salt on it just a-top of my breast. And do you hear, have plenty of tobacco, and pipes enough. And remember to make the punch strong. And—but what the devil is the use of talking to you; sure, I know you'll be sure to botch it, as I wo'n't be there myself."

## BLEACHING STRAW.

THE customary mode of bleaching straw for ornamental use, has been to stove it in a cask with burning brimstone; but there is a readier method, if judiciously applied:—Take a solution of muriatic acid, and saturate it with potash until the effervescence subsides. Dip the straw in the solution. Again the oxygenated muriate of lime, which may be had at any chemist's shop, dissolved in water, will bleach straw without the least diminution of its flexibility.—*London Mirror*.

## KOTZEBUE.

THE play of this celebrated author, which, on our stage, is called the *Stranger*, produced very contrary effects when it was brought forward on the *Theatre Francois* in Paris, as is

evinced by the two following anecdotes:—A young man being violently in love with the sister of his friend, solicited her hand, obtained his request, and impatiently waited for the day which was to confirm his felicity. On the evening previous to the day fixed upon for the sacred ceremony, he accompanied his mistress, her mother, and brother, to a representation of the piece here alluded to. In all the interesting scenes, the young lover appeared greatly affected; he saw his future brother-in-law shedding tears, and his mother weeping abundantly, while the young lady smiled with contempt at the whole exhibition! After the play was over, he handed the ladies to their carriage, and immediately took leave of them, whispering, as follows, to his constant friend and inseparable companion: "I shall never marry your sister! the woman who can, without being affected, witness the contrition of an honest mind that has erred, is not a fit wife for a man of honour."—Some days after, a gentleman, rather advanced in the vale of life, was at the same play, listening to every sentence with philosophical attention; he happened, however, to cast his eyes into one of the opposite boxes, where he saw a young lady of his acquaintance (whom he was on the eve of marrying) bathed in tears, and visibly moved by the passing scene of woe. The tender interest the young lady took in the representation was attended by bad consequences for her. Her rich admirer wrote to her the next day, and surrendered every pretension to her person.

## THE WANT OF MONEY.

THERE is one class of persons who are always in want of money, from the want of spirit to make use of it. Such persons are much to be pitied. They live in want, in the midst of plenty—dare not touch what belongs to them—are afraid to say that their