

Book of Ruth, 1st Chapt. 8th Verse.

**"The Lord deal kindly with you, as ye have
dealt with the dead, and with me."**

These were the words of Naomi, addressed to her daughters-in-law, as she was about to depart from Moab, where she, her husband Elimelech, and her two sons, had found refuge and sustenance, when the Almighty displeasure had visited the land of Judah with famine and sore want.

How altered were the circumstances, in which she was about to revisit her former home !

The God of Nature, it is true, had reversed his decree, for he had poured forth plenty and abundance in the place of scarcity and famine. The fields of Judah, which lately refused to requite the toil of the husbandman, were now standing "thick with corn." The pastures, which were marked by sterility and waste, were now beautified with flocks and herds.

The vineyards again indicated by their fruitful fulness, that the wine of gladness would be added to the bread of abundance ; that a bountiful Providence had again clothed the fields and forests