

selves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in." From the comparison together of these two last passages, we learn, that to take away the key of knowledge, and to shut up the kingdom of heaven are equivalent terms ; the key of knowledge is evidently the power to instruct, for those therefore who have this power, to neglect to use it, is to shut up the kingdom of heaven, to neglect making men wise unto salvation. Now Peter had given unto him the keys of the kingdom of heaven—He was called of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Apostleship.—A dispensation of the gospel was committed to him that he might preach the gospel, and that by preaching it, he might throw open the gates of the Church, that all who would be saved according to the will of God, might enter in and experience the inestimable advantages of the "Communion of Saints."—And it is remarkable that Peter was the first who did this.—He first of all, before any of the other apostles, preached the Gospel, both to the Jews and Gentiles, so that afterwards (to use the expressive language of Paul) * "a great door, and effec-

* 1 Cor. 16—9.