

CHAPTER III.

PREMONITIONS OF EVIL.

THE prophet Amos asks, " Shall evil befall a city, and the Lord hath not done it?" This question does not necessarily imply that God authorizes evil or the work of the evil one in the sense of making Himself strictly chargeable for all that comes to pass. God allows or permits evil. Hence we are not to think when evil comes that God has failed to consider our desire or need, or that He has lost His hold upon the forces which operate against us.

Assuming that his position is unquestionable, the prophet advances a step further by stating: " Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but He revealeth His secrets unto His servants the prophets."

This conclusion is fairly drawn from the premises taken; for if God exercises suzerainty over all things and all forces, whether human or Satanic, there can be no haphazard about history, and His secrets as revealed are as sure to come to pass as though there were no coun-