

SERMON.

4th Chapter of the Book of the Prophet Hosea, part of the
6th verse :—

“ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”

HE doubtless has yet to learn the nature and extent of Christian obligation, who cares not that the heathen live without God in this world ; but he who can look on unmoved, while Satan is wresting from the Lord's portion of His own inheritance—what words shall describe the conduct of such a one!—If it argue a gross dereliction of duty not to have reclaimed the moral desert, and to have made it the garden of the Lord, how awful must be that neglect which can suffer the once fruitful field to revert into a wilderness!—There is a more than wonted emphasis in the complaint of the text, it is the language of one who sees the vineyard which his own right hand had planted, all wasted and desolate, its hedges thrown down and its fences destroyed :—of one, constrained as it were to exclaim : “ What could have been done more to my vineyard that I have not done in it ? Wherefore, when “ I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it
“ forth wild grapes ?”