

**SERMONS PREACHED IN
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL.
IN SIX VOLUMES, VOL. IV**

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Sermons Preached in Lincoln's Inn Chapel. In Six Volumes, Vol. IV by Frederick Denison Maurice

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FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE

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S E R M O N S

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PREACHED IN LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL

BY

FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE

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VOL. IV

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GOD THE UPROOTER OF SECTS

For the Sunday after Ascension

MAY 16, 1858

"But He answered and said, Every plant, which My Heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up."—MATTHEW xv. 13.

OUR Lord had been proclaiming the principle, "*Not that which entereth into the mouth defileth the man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, that defileth him.*" It was a principle evidently of very wide application. It undermined a whole scheme of religion. The Jewish teachers felt how much was involved in it. "*Knowest thou,*" said the disciples to their Master, "*that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? But He answered and said, Every plant, which my Heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.*"

Again He enunciated a universal maxim. But He did not leave the disciples to find applications of it. He left them in no doubt that the sect of the Pharisees was that plant of which He spoke; that this was to be rooted up. They must have wondered at the