

Pulpit Criticism.

A WEEKLY SHEET.

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Published on Saturday, and sold at "The Citizen" Office, 57 Adelaide Street East.

PRICE \$1.00 PER ANNUM.

Copies of any single number can be had, in quantities, at 25 cents per dozen.

BOND-STREET PULPIT.

The wizard of Bond-street still holds one in thrall. Eighteen centuries of the Christian era had revolved, and we find ourselves far advanced in the nineteenth, when a man in the midst of a civilized community is found publishing orally, and by means of a book, such statements as the following:—"Manasseh was to be a great people, and so I believe he is. In the United States I find this promise literally fulfilled. This is the key (he proceeds to say) to the settlement of this land; to the agitations of the Pilgrims and Puritans in England. The mission, work, and place of the United States may be found in the prophecies relating to this tribe." The only apology to be made, on the part of the writer, for giving currency to such a statement as the foregoing, consists in the fact that many persons who are intelligent in regard to any other subject than that which relates to the Bible, give ear to such utterances. The subjoined ravings are supposed to convey the proof of the above allegation:—"Let any one examine the great seal of the United States, and study its design, and surprise will fill the mind that facts, Providence, and prophecies do so wonderfully agree. Take the obverse side: Here you have an eagle with outstretched wings; the bird is perfect, not double *head* and deformed, as in other cases where the eagle has been or is the national bird. (France would appear to have been overlooked by the victim of this hallucination; and as the eagle was the traditional standard of the tribe of Dan, there would appear to have been a shadow of plausibility about the delusion, had its inventor connected the States with that tribe: an inventive genius, moreover, might have found an application for the prediction relating to that tribe, "Dan shall be a serpent (a seraph, *Wild* version) by the way, an arrow—snake in the path, that biteth the horse's heels, so that the rider falls backwards." This, however, it does not appear to have occurred to Dr. Wild to attempt, and so he proceeds, "The striped escutcheon on its breast, in its beak a scroll, inscribed with a motto, 'E pluribus Unum;'" (it does not appear to have occurred to the learned Divine that the motto *may* be translated, "One of a lot," he therefore gives the more *popular* version, "One out of many," and adds,) "as Manasseh was, and as the country is building up a grand nationality and oneness out of all nations nearly." As this material was addressed to a Brooklyn audience, the appeal to national vanity is obvious enough, and