

bounties on wild animals where such animals are driven into the mountain fastnesses by the advance of settlement so that the damage they do is comparatively insignificant.

PIONEER JUBILEE CRITICISM.

On Saturday the News published a communication over the nom de plume Seedy, in which the correspondent expressed some of his personal views upon certain propositions passed upon and before the semi-centennial commission. Some of those views differed from those we held, and we had thought to offer some suggestions relative thereto. But on Saturday evening, at a meeting of the commission, this paper came in for a share of angry denunciation because it did not stifle the correspondent referred to.

Now at this point the News desires to call attention to a few items. One is that when a newspaper publishes communications, the latter often express opinions at variance with those of the paper, hence to charge the paper with responsibility for those opinions is neither courtesy nor good judgment. Another is that when so event of such moment as the proposed celebration is under way, and fifty thousand dollars or more of the people's money is to be expended upon it, to suppress the voice of reasonable criticism, or suggestion, or inquiry, merely because it does not fit our ideas, is not fair journalism. The people have some right to be heard, even that portion which picks out flaws, and does it with a sincere motive to get at the best course. Still further; to denounce "bushwhackers" persons identified with the country, because they do not agree with the program adopted and fall down and worship it, although they may be wrong, is neither polite nor wise. And if there is no cause for criticism, gentlemen should not fly into a passion and quarrel with somebody else when a little of it is offered.

On this subject generally, as on others, it may be well to suggest that the News is not muzzled, neither will it muzzle correspondents, even when they differ from it and call for its criticism, if they present their views in a respectful manner.

So far as concerns the attitude of the News toward the Pioneer Jubilee celebration, notwithstanding the innuendoes made, the record of this paper is that it first proposed the celebration; it worked for it earnestly and almost alone in the face of marked opposition for a considerable time; and it has not faltered in its determined and enthusiastic support of a celebration in which all the State shall join, and make a crowning success. We are still in the work, ready to give the commission every assistance at our command, as the record in our columns shows. But we are not in favor of any clap-trap show, or of a selfish scheme, proposed from any source; neither will we knock down people who criticize methods with a view to improvement. We hold that decent criticism, suggestion, inquiry and discussion will bring out many new thoughts, and should be utilized to help along the good work. But we do not believe that petulance, or fault-

finding merely for the sake of doing so, will do any good.

To the members of the commission we say that if they hope to go along without meeting any who honestly differ from them they will be disappointed. It will be better to anticipate coming in contact with such, and if they offer any good suggestion, profit by it. The work to which the commission is called is of a highly patriotic order, and if it is performed conscientiously those who do it will not fall of public appreciation. And we can assure them that patience, perseverance and patriotism on their part will receive full commendation from the News, expressed in unmistakable terms, and in the columns where it is customary for public journals to give their opinion.

Let us have the celebration in the true jubilee spirit. Let it be as much to the interest of Ogden, of Provo, of Logan, of Brigham City, of Nephi, Manti, and every other city, town and village in the State as of Salt Lake City, to make a whole-souled, Pioneer rejoicing in Utah this year. Let us have a plan that will cover all this field, and let the public know of its details soon, that all may learn thereof and give their hearty approval.

THREATENING TROUBLE.

The letter of J. R. Sovereign, grand master workman of the Knights of Labor, to the Industrial Advocate, and the article by Private Dalzell in the Washington Post which called forth the Sovereign letter, present a view of affairs in this government not at all reassuring for prolonged peace. Dalzell tells of the lamentable industrial condition of the country, the millions of idle people, the increase of landlords and tenants, of debts, and other threatening conditions, and concludes:

Civilization, as Napoleon said of armies, travels on its stomach, and it is very hungry now, for the most part. But where can it be filled? Hence all this unrest, all the wild war talk and disension of silver and gold and tariff by people who have neither silver nor gold nor anything to pay customs. Relief shall not come in that way. It never did at this stage of society. It will come in the old way, in war, and not otherwise; either insurrectionary, which God forbid; or foreign, which heaven hasten, if it shall quiet this people and give them rest.

To this Mr. Sovereign responds that the United States should have such agitation at home as will force a change in social and economic conditions without war, and says:

Insurrections, like great conflagrations, start with a spark and are quenched only with a deluge. One reason in favor of insurrection to idle, starving and debt-burdened people is more potent in exciting war than a thousand reasons against insurrection are in preserving peace. For that reason, Dalzell at this time is a dangerous writer.

Then Mr. Sovereign tells of two secret revolutionary orders known as the Iron Brotherhood and the Industrial Army, now being formed in this country, tells of their circular which declares the failure of the ballot in this country and calls for a resort to arms, and adds:

Scarcely a day passes that I do not re-

ceive one or more appeals to join one or the other of the revolutionary orders being formed in this country, and offers of money and arms are frequently received if I will give my efforts to the cause of revolution. Thus far I have persistently declined to give aid or encouragement to such movement. But if, through the writings of such men as Private Dalzell, revolution comes in spite of all efforts to prevent it, I will not be found among the cowards nor on the side of the plutocratic classes.

Such disclosures reveal the fact that the country is in danger of an irruption that has not had its parallel in any nation's history during the past fifteen centuries, and which is terrible to contemplate. With the wars that are threatening and affecting other nations, there is to be evaded in this country the possibility of a warfare that will wipe out its civilization. There is work for statesmen to change, by peaceful methods, this condition to one of safety for the Republic.

PHILIP MELANCHTON.

Lutherans all over the world at this time celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Philip Melancthon, who was born at Bretten, Baden, February 16, 1497.

At all times when the Almighty has a specific work to perform among the children of men, the human instruments for the performance of that work are raised up. They seem to be specially prepared for their mission. Special gifts and talents seem to be their inheritance, given to them even before their entrance into this world. The Reformation was necessary as a preparation for the establishment of the Church in these latter days. For spiritual bondage had to be broken, and religious and political liberty secured as a preliminary to the proclamation of the second advent of the Son of Man. And Melancthon was one of the leading spirits in the events that culminated in the revival of liberty among the nations of Europe and lead to the triumph of freedom on this continent. The Reformation in Germany is generally called Luther's, but it is doubtful whether Luther would have been able to fulfill his mission without the aid of Melancthon.

This famous reformer was a prodigy of learning. At the age of fifteen he graduated from Heidelberg university with the degree of bachelor of philosophy, the degree of master being withheld on account of his youth. At seventeen, however, he obtained this degree at Tuebingen, and he now commenced to give lectures on Aristotelian philosophy. At Wittenberg he met Martin Luther, and they at once became friends and co-workers in the Reformation. Melancthon became one of the greatest theologians, although he never obtained the degree of D. D. He wrote some important sermons but did not appear in the pulpits. It was he that wrote the Augsburg Confession, and his knowledge of Greek was the main reliance of Luther in the translation of the Bible into German. He is described as eminently modest, gentle and peaceful, and in this respect he was a contrast to both friends and