

would have the effect of tearing away for a considerable radius all the portion of the ship where it struck, and the stronger it was built the greater would be the probable destruction.

As previously suggested, the guns are pneumatic, that is, the propulsive power is compressed air. Of course gunpowder could not be used; that would undoubtedly cause all the destruction at the wrong end of the missile's journey. The air is kept in a "tank," where it is forced by machinery, and is thus imparted to the guns, of which there are three on the *Vesuvius*. All things considered, it is certainly a dangerous piece of workmanship, and if its kind can be reproduced as rapidly as desired, as was the case with the monitors during the rebellion, we might again astonish the world by overcoming the Goliaths of the sea with our smaller and more efficient Davids.

All this suggests the question as to why, if the *Vesuvius* style of craft is superior and handier than the bulky and cumbersome ironclads, the other nations should not adopt them too. There is no such thing as an international patent, and if there were, the condition of beligerency between us and another power would obliterate it so far as the latter was concerned. And if this should be done, it would then be a question of which could destroy the other first and fastest—exactly as it is now. In point of fact, the gun that was experimented with the other day, was for the Italian government, being designed for the protection of Spezzia, though of course it is the same pattern as those of the *Vesuvius*.

MOTHERLY IDAHOANS.

WHEN the more consistent and loyal portion of the population of Utah—the "Mormons"—have protested against the clamors of the "active politicians" of the minority for special legislation for Utah, their objections have been met with the stale and unrepugnant statement that Territories are mere wards of the government. Congress has a right to pass any laws regarding them it may think fit, and it is for the people of the Territories to take the medicine as a small child takes treacle and brimstone from the hand of its maternal parent in spring time. For any portion of the people of a Territory to mildly insist that the prescription is contrary to a republican constitution has been

characterized as an uprising against the parental authority of the Federal government, and the mutineers have been denounced as worthy of being laid over the national knee and roundly spanked for claiming they had any rights in the premises worthy of the smallest degree of consideration. Of course, outside of Utah this insane theory has not been advanced, to say nothing about insisted on. But such has been the run of anti-"Mormon" logic when the majority of this Territory have objected to being politically stripped and legally robbed.

It appears now, on the surface of things, that a change of guardianship—of an immediate character—for Utah is gradually taking place. Surely this will be admitted when consideration is given to the motherly solicitude manifested toward Utah by the "active politicians" in the Territory of Idaho on the north of us. This anxiety is not diminished by the fact that the birth of the daughter occurred many years before the mother saw the light of day.

As notoriously understood, not long since the Legislature of Idaho formulated a prescription for Utah in the shape of a legislative commission. The object was to reduce to attenuation the already limited political avordupois of this unfortunate Territory. The prescription paper was forwarded to the shop of the chief national apothecary, but it is questionable whether that drug store carries the ingredients it calls for. If not, it may be necessary to import them from Russia, where the tincture of despotism is said to exist in large quantities. It is feared, however, from the way things are drifting, that the stock over there is likely to undergo a severe drain by exportation to this country, unless the Chamber of Commerce should take immediate steps to start a home factory for its production in immense quantities. Should a company be organized and incorporated for this purpose we modestly suggest the name of Caleb W. West for president, while it would, in view of his labors in the direction of making the article palatable to the American taste, be due to Moccasin McBride to invest him with the secretaryship. We would not by any means advise that he be made treasurer. He once held a position of trust and emolument in the government assay office in Boise City, Idaho. Perhaps Mr. Baskin would accept.

We have diverged from the main thread—the solicitude of the "active politicians" of Idaho for Utah. This sentiment has found expression in a later formation than the legislative commission memorial. A petition has been widely circulated in Boise by that class, asking that P. Edward Connor be appointed United States Marshal for Utah. Now, although it is understood that Patrick E. hails from the same part of America as Mr. Lannan—the County Down—he may be said at least to belong more to Utah than to Idaho. Therefore this petition business is measurably a striking illustration of the saying, "A prophet hath honor save in his own country." It is doubtful if the "active politicians" here would be found rushing around obtaining signatures to such a petition. They might be more than willing that he should be accorded the U. S. Marshalship for Idaho, but not very likely that they should desire him to occupy that office for Utah.

But the chief point of this writing is to show the insane solicitude existing in a certain class of people in Idaho for this Territory. The thankfulness of the people of Utah should be commensurate with the nature and intensity of this fanatical and idiotic anxiety.

DIGNITY AND TONE.

A DAY or two since we made some comments upon a published statement of J. R. McBride. He said: "I never took much stock in the Church case, but Jenks's argument was such that I have no doubt of the result."

We held that such an announcement was equal to saying: "I never took any stock in the Church case because it is illegal and wrong." The anti-Mormon paper, in which Mr. McBride's language first appeared, excepts to our construction, and says he meant: "I was fully satisfied of the perfect legality of the proceeding, and I have no doubt what the decision of the Supreme Court will be." It is asserted that Mr. McBride and his associate lobbyists and "active politicians," Baskin and West, did not favor that portion of the Edmunds-Tucker bill which escheats the property of the Church, "not because it was illegal or unjust, but because it would lower the dignity and very probably, in many quarters, cause a misapprehension of our motives here."

If that is not distilled richness,