

And wanton hid, tho' faint their souls athirst,  
 The well-springs from their sight ;  
 But would one pause to write  
 That ever I hoar Age or ruddy Youth  
 Did point to fountains of Eternal Truth,  
 If I should die to-night ?

Now reigns the tyrant Might,  
 And crushes low the weak, for he is strong ;  
 With each succeeding sun red-handed Wrong  
 Doth triumph over Right.  
 But from the hate and spite,  
 Would one faint voice in falt'ring accents speak  
 And say, I once was strength unto the weak,  
 If I should die to-night ?

Time doth each deed requite,  
 For Sorrow's crown of thorns is vain Regret,  
 That we may wear, each thorn with tear-drops wet,  
 As day gives place to night.  
 I would that naught but light  
 Of Love, of Truth, of Good may round me shine,  
 No wasted hour reproach this heart of mine,  
 If I should die to-night.

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

BY B. F. UNDERWOOD, CHICAGO.

DR. JOHN FISKE, in his work on "Civil Government in the United States," says :

"It is partly because too many of our citizens fail to realize that local government is a worthy study that we find it making so much trouble for us ; the 'bummers' and 'hoodlers' do not find the subject beneath their notice ; the Master who inspires them is wide awake and for a creature that divides the hoof—extremely intelligent."

The character of an aggregate depends upon the character of its units. The general government must depend very largely upon the efficiency of the local governments. For this reason it was that Jefferson insisted always on the importance of a thorough study of the township. For this reason Dr. Fiske, in the work referred to above, devotes about one-half the space to the government of the town, the county and the city. He would have that taught which is near and simple, before attempting