

is local self-government," these resolutions demand that "every county or town and every city be granted the right to regulate the assessment and taxation of property at its discretion, provided any increase or reduction of assessment must be uniform throughout such county, town or city, and not made on the ground of ownership." The meaning of the last clause is not very clear. But, taken as a whole, the resolution is an unqualified endorsement of the beneficent principle of home rule in taxation, which the legislatures of several states have for a few years past been considering. It will doubtless receive most emphatic, and it is to be hoped favorable attention, this year from the legislature of Colorado, on the proposal of the Bucklin tax commission to empower cities and counties to adopt the Australasian land value tax. Another good point about the resolution of the league is a demand that "so much state revenue as may be required in excess of that derived from specific taxes should be apportioned to and paid by the counties or towns in proportion to county or town revenue." This would make the state board of equalization a mere clerical body, with no judicial powers. Its duty would begin and end with a simple computation, upon the basis of local expenditures, of the proportion which each locality should contribute to state expenses. As the local expenditures of a county for the previous year were to the local expenditures of all the counties of the state,

In a quotation from a congressional report, which appeared last week in the article on "The Washington Centennial," page 567, we made an error in copying which needs correction. Instead of quoting the report as saying that under certain circumstances the tax rate of the city of Washington would be "60 cents on the dollar—a lower rate than that of any large city in the country," we should have quoted "60 cents on the \$100." So far from being a low rate, 60 cents on the dollar would be enormously high. This must be so obvious to the reader that the correction is quite unnecessary except for the purpose of supplying the true figures.

so would the state taxes of that county for the present year be to the total of state taxation. This method would divest the state board of equalization of the mischievous power it now exercises, and taken together with the system of home rule in taxation would tend to work substantial justice.

THE LARGER PATRIOTISM.

Lust of empire, which has brought out all that is worst in the British character and lured Americans from their republican ideals, puts patriotism upon trial; for in this mania for conquest it is to the patriotic instinct of the people that imperial appeals are made, and upon their patriotic aspirations that imperial hopes are borne. What is patriotism, that it can be thus enlisted in aggressive warfare? Is that a virtue which lends its influence so readily to national wickedness?

To say that patriotism is love of country gives no light. Love of country must itself be explained. It cannot mean love of a country's soil, of its trees and hills and rocks and rills. If that were its meaning a large proportion of the inhabitants of every nation would be without love of country, for not a rood of old mother earth belongs to them, nor can they use any of it without paying toll. Love of country, then, must be nothing less than love of one's neighbors within a nation's boundaries. And in the narrower sense this truly is patriotism.

But love of neighbors means more than a sentimental emotion of affection for what one may call his own—as his wife, his family, his friends, his neighbors, his house, his horse, his cattle. Such love is only one of the forms of selfishness, more subtle but not less vicious when the object of it is one's neighbor than when it is one's own person or his own property. The maxim of this spurious love of country, "my country right or wrong," is the same in essence as "myself right or wrong." Love of one's neighbors within the boundaries of his nation—love, that is, of one's countrymen—if it be love of them in very truth, must consist in devotion to the ideals and institutions of the country which

guarantee equal rights to all one's countrymen.

If that be patriotism, however, then is there a larger patriotism, a patriotism which embraces the world and is the political expression of the golden rule. In the jurisdiction of this larger patriotism it is treason to make war save for the preservation of equal rights. It is treason as well as criminal aggression to pursue a policy of forcible annexation. For he who truly loves his neighbors within his own country, who loves them to the extent of cherishing their rights equally with his own, cannot draw the line at his own country. He must abhor any invasion by his countrymen of the country of others, which he would repel if his own were the country invaded.

This larger patriotism is the antithesis of that spirit of imperialism which, appealing to spurious patriotism, condemns all opposition as treason. Imperialism would subjugate inferior peoples on pretense of elevating them; the larger patriotism would encourage all peoples to elevate themselves. Imperialism is the national pharisee, who thanks God that he is better than other men; the larger patriotism is the national apostle spreading by practice as well as precept the civilizing principle of him who rebuked the pharisee and taught men that principle of love which is justice and that rule of righteousness which directs each to do to others as he would have others do to him.

NEWS

A brilliant Boer victory has suddenly revived general interest in the military situation in South Africa. The fight in which this victory was won occurred at Nooitgedacht, in the Magalies mountains, about 22 miles west of Pretoria. Gen. Clements occupied the district with British troops. The Boers in the region were under the command of Gen. Delary, whose force was supposed to consist of 1,000 men. Unknown to Clements, so the British story runs, Delary was suddenly reinforced by 3,000 men under Commandant Bovers, and at day-break on the 13th the Boer attack was made. A furious battle followed. It was hottest during the morning