

more striking any reverse we might now sustain. There is much truth in Algernon Sydney's remark—"He who builds a city, and does not intend it should increase, commits as great an absurdity as if he should desire that his child might ever continue under the same weakness in which he was born. *If it does not grow, it must repine and perish, for in this world nothing is permanent; that which does not grow better will grow worse.*" We are become too exalted; we occupy too lofty a station in the eyes of Europe and the world, to suffer any abatement of our renown with impunity.

After having waged successful war against one of the greatest masters of the art of war that ever trod on battle-field; after having overthrown the mightiest military empire the world ever beheld; and having been regarded as the umpire of the destinies of Europe;—possessed, as we are, of an extent of territory equal to that over which Rome held dominion in her meridian power, and which realizes the Spanish boast that the sun never set on their empire;—it would