

that they shall never rise again ;' a speech, affording, perhaps, the best possible explanation of the motives which actuated the citizens on this occasion. The city of Amsterdam, the most influential member of the States of Holland, which, in their turn, were predominant in the States-General, became thus the virtual head of the Union, and as such was ever viewed with a jealous eye by the stadtholders, to whom it appeared as a rival in authority and consideration."¹

Adverting to "the influx of multitudes of refugees of different nations who sought shelter within her boundaries," as causing the rapid advancement of Holland in the esteem of the other nations of Europe, Davies further remarks : "Fugitives from the Spanish Netherlands, from Spain itself, Protestants driven from Germany by the miseries of the 'Thirty Years' War, Jews from Portugal and Huguenots from France, found here welcome, safety, and employment. Nor was it more in the *numbers* than in the *sort* of population she thus gained that Holland found her advantage. The fugitives were not criminals escaped from justice, speculators lured by the hope of plunder, nor idlers coming thither to enjoy the luxuries which their own country did not afford ; they were generally men persecuted on account of their love of civil liberty, or their devotion to their religious tenets ; had they been content to sacrifice the one or the other to their present ease and interest they had remained unmolested where they were ; it was by their activity, integrity, and resolution that they rendered themselves obnoxious to the tyrannical and bigoted governments which drove them from their native land ; and these virtues they carried with them to their adopted country, peopling it not with vagabonds or indolent voluptuaries, but with brave, intelligent, and useful citizens. Thus not only was the waste in the population of the provinces consequent on the war rapidly supplied, but, by means of the industry and the skill of the new comers, their manufactures were carried to so high a pitch of perfection that in a short time they were able to surpass and undersell the traders of every other nation. * * * *

"At the time of the peace, this nook of land (the province of Holland containing scarcely 700,000 souls, and the others proportionally less) found itself mistress of the island of Amboyna and its dependencies ; Banda, a part of the Moluccas ; Minado, in the Island of Celebes ; Timor, the town of Malacca ; Tenasserim and Gudjansalang ; the fort of Gueldria and the towns of Paliacatte and Ulegapatnam, on the coast of Coromandel ; with the town of Batavia and the surrounding country in the Island of Java ; the fort of St. George, in Africa ; and the town and colony of New Amsterdam, in North

¹ History of Holland. Davies, vol. II., pp. 608, 609.