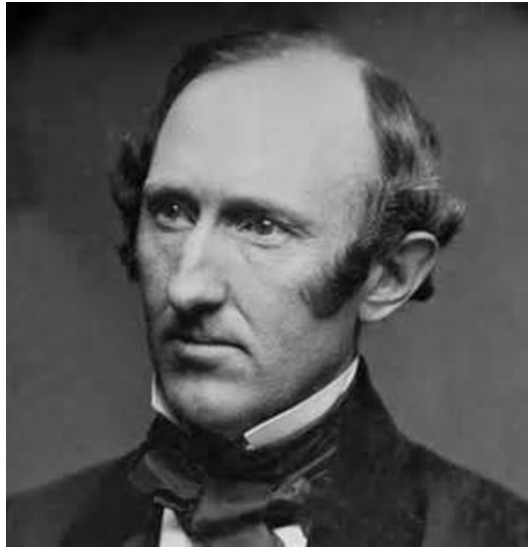


42 QUOTATIONS



Wendell Phillips

(1811-1884)

Wendell Phillips was a Boston attorney, orator, and eloquent advocate for slaves, Native Americans, women's rights, temperance, and labor. His life changed in 1835 when he witnessed a pro-slavery mob attack William Lloyd Garrison, the Abolitionist leader. Phillips was so outraged that he joined the movement himself and became known as "abolition's golden trumpet." His pro-slavery family tried to confine him in an insane asylum.

ORDER OF TOPICS: great causes, religion, the Puritans, education, labor, government, big government, politicians, newspapers, revolution, death, epitaph:

GREAT CAUSES

One on God's side is a majority.

The heart is the best reflective thinker.

If you want to be a great orator, first get your great cause.

Physical bravery is an animal instinct; moral bravery is a much higher and truer courage.

RELIGION

Difference of religion breeds more quarrels than politics.

Christianity is a battle, not a dream.

THE PURITANS

What the Puritans gave the world was not thought, but action.

Health lies in labor, and there is no royal road to it but through toil.

The heritage of the past is the seed that brings forth the harvest of the future.

To be as good as our fathers we must be better: imitation is not discipleship.

Common sense does not ask an impossible chessboard, but takes the one before it and plays the game.

EDUCATION

Responsibility educates.

The best education in the world is that got by struggling to make a living.

Exigencies create the necessary ability to meet and conquer them.

What is defeat? Nothing but education.

LABOR

Aristocracy is always cruel.

Power is ever stealing from the many to the few.

The labor movement is just this: it is the last noble protest of the American people against the power of incorporated wealth.

The keener the want, the lustier the growth.

GOVERNMENT

Governments exist to protect the rights of minorities. The loved and the rich need no protection—they have many friends and few enemies.

The best use of laws is to teach men to trample bad laws under their feet.

BIG GOVERNMENT

Today it is not big business that we have to fear. It is big government.

To hear some men talk of government, you would suppose that Congress was the law of gravitation, and kept the planets in their places.

Debt is the fatal disease of republics, the first thing and the mightiest to undermine governments and corrupt the people.

POLITICIANS

Two kind of men generally succeed in political life: men of no principle, but of great talent; and men of no talent, but of one principle—that of obedience to their superiors.

You can always get the truth from an American statesman after he has turned seventy, or given up all hope of the Presidency.

NEWSPAPERS

It is only liquid currents of thought that move men and the world.

We live under a government of men and the morning newspapers.

Law is nothing unless close behind it stands a warm, living public opinion.

What gunpowder has done for war, the printing press has done for the mind.

Let me make the newspapers, and I care not what is preached in the pulpit or what is enacted in Congress.

Truth is one forever absolute, but opinion is truth filtered through...the disposition of the spectator.

Many know how to flatter, few know how to praise.

REVOLUTION

Revolutions never go backward.

A revolution is as natural a growth as an oak.

Right is the eternal sun; the world cannot delay its coming.

Revolutions are not made; they come.

Politics is but the common pulse-beat, of which revolution is the fever-spasm.

Every step of progress the world has made has been from scaffold to scaffold, and from stake to stake.

What is fanaticism today is the fashionable creed tomorrow.

DEATH

Every man meets his Waterloo at last.

EPITAPH

Write on my gravestone: "Infidel, Traitor"—infidel to every church that compromises with wrong; traitor to every government that oppresses the people.

