

Wendell Phillips on Cuba and the Alabama Claims.

On the basis of emancipation and the equality of races Wendell Phillips goes for Cuban independence. The same rule, he argues, condemns England's Southern confederacy and belligerent rights, inasmuch as "she strained even the unjust and equivocal rules of international law to find means of helping a slaveholding conspiracy. Hating our government as a possible rival, she aided to establish piracy and slavery as corner stones of a new State. We will waste no time in discussing technicalities with her. Her offence is rank. The atonement is to be full pecuniary recompense, and, beside, a distinct, formal disavowal of any right in future" to play the same game. "No matter how long it takes," continues Phillips, "we can wait." Meanwhile, he contends, we must help out Cuba, "and if Great Britain interferes we have, at little cost, a perpetual Alabama anchored off her coast, just as near to Liverpool as Dublin is to that port." This is putting the case in plain English, and probing to the roots of the question. Phillips ought to proceed at once to Washington and have a talk with Mr. Fish. He is no longer asleep, but he is still dozing, and he wants a thorough waking up. The shaping of the grandest events of the present century is in his hands, and he does not seem to know it.