

The Cubans are engaged in a desperate struggle for the practical establishment of their right to govern themselves. They are much fewer than our Revolutionary fathers were, and their country is far smaller; but then of the Americans of 1776 a full third were Tories, while we never yet saw or heard of a native Cuban who was not intensely hostile to Spanish domination. The wrongs and outrages to which the Cubans have been subjected by Spain are infinitely greater and more grievous than those which impelled our fathers to sever the tie which bound them to their mother country; and, while even the signers of our Declaration of Independence, though they pointedly condemned Slavery, held on to their slaves till death, the Cubans are fighting openly, nobly, under the flag of Freedom for All. In view of these facts, we see not how any one can plausibly profess to approve of the struggle initiated by Otis, Warren, Franklin, Patrick Henry, Adams, Washington and Jefferson, yet condemn that whereof Cespedes is the lead.

Very naturally, the sympathies of our people—that is, of those who have any sympathies—are with the Cubans. To the popular apprehension, this is a reproduction of the bloody, terrible struggle whereof Belgium and the Low Countries were the arena, and which culminated in the recognition by Spain of the independence of Holland. Phillip II., Alva, Alexander Farnese, are the forerunners of Dulce and his ruthless Generals; indeed, we remember no proclamation of Alva so inhuman as that recently fulminated from Bryamo. The triumph of Spain over the Cuban patriots would be followed by tortures and butcheries calculated to sicken the heart and chill the blood of any American who is not absolutely a fiend. So palpably just and pertinent are these considerations that we never before knew public opinion so heartily unanimous in this City on any question of foreign politics as it is in favor of Cuba as against Spain.

What must be thought, then, of the journal which boasts, like *The World*, of its devotion to the principles of democracy and self-government, which makes itself the tool and convenience of Spanish bigotry and despotism—which habitually spies and pimps for Dulce and his satellites, blazoning the name, armament, force, and destination, of every vessel that leaves our coast, which it fancies in the Cuban interest, thus putting Dulce in possession by telegraph of all the information that can be gathered, by every sort of eaves-dropping, that may enable him to intercept and capture the patriots' fresh supplies of men and munitions? If two or three hundred of our boys, who have left fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, behind them, shall in consequence be subjected to butchery by the garrote, will not *The World* have incurred a fearful responsibility?