

The whole history of the progress of human liberty
shows that all concessions yet made to her august claims
have been born of earnest struggle
. . . .If there is no struggle, there is no progress.

Those who favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation
are men who want crops without plowing up the ground—
they want rain without thunder and lightening—
they want the ocean without the awful roar of its waters.

This struggle may be a moral one;
it may be a physical one;
or it may be both moral and physical
but it must be a struggle.

Power concedes nothing without demand. . . .
It never did and it never will.

Find out just what the people will submit to
And you have found the exact amount of injustice and wrong
which will be imposed upon them;
And these will continue until they are resisted
with either words or blows, or both. . . .

The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

Frederick Douglass, 1857