

THE PROTESTANT, AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

WEEKLY CALENDAR—APRIL.

- Full Moon, 6th day, 10. 47^m, evening.
- Last Quarter, 12th day, 10. 22^m, evening.
- New Moon, 21st day, 10. 8^m, morning.
- First Quarter, 26th day, 10. 22^m, morning.

DAY	DAY WEEK.	SUN	High Water	Moon	east	Day's Length
MONTH.		moon	more	even,	more	
1	Sunday	10. 41	10. 41	10. 22	10. 22	10. 22
2	Monday	10. 42	10. 42	10. 23	10. 23	10. 23
3	Tuesday	10. 43	10. 43	10. 24	10. 24	10. 24
4	Wednesday	10. 44	10. 44	10. 25	10. 25	10. 25
5	Thursday	10. 45	10. 45	10. 26	10. 26	10. 26
6	Friday	10. 46	10. 46	10. 27	10. 27	10. 27
7	Saturday	10. 47	10. 47	10. 28	10. 28	10. 28

LEGISLATIVE DEBATES.

TUESDAY APRIL 22.

DECIMAL CURRENCY BILL.

(Continued from last page.)

member who introduced it, it only provides that the public accounts be kept in dollars and cents; and it is argued that the adoption of that plan will gradually induce the people to use upon the system, which is much more clumsy than the decimal system, than by pounds, shillings and pence. Although, as in the case of all important deviations from established usage, the introduction of the proposed system of account would cause inconvenience at first, its superiority over our present method is so great that I have no doubt it will be adopted at an early period, and probably in a few years. Had the bill been adopted, it had made its action to represent dollars and cents; that legislation and the public at large would have experienced its advantages in the circulation of the notes in the other colonies.

Mr. STURGEON.—While I agree with the opinions of the last two speakers as to the comparative superiority of the decimal system, I stand out against the Bill, as I consider that the adoption of such a plan, for the great change it would effect, the time will, I believe, soon arrive when it will be necessary to adopt it, on account of its simplicity, and the facilities for calculation it affords. Any radical change in long continued usage has always encountered the prejudice naturally arising from a separation from the familiar tradition; but that we should still retain the expression of the old name, I shall have given full scope for its adoption.

Mr. HOWAT.—The non-production of despatches was not altogether unprecedented in the history of the Island. In the time of Sir Alexander Bannerman, despatches had been withheld. In the case before the House, the Lieutenant Governor could make public reference, before his late Charlottetown session, to the whole correspondence on the subject which should be laid before the House. That correspondence had been elicited by an address of the House, and, although the Government might seek to hush up the country, and endeavour to shut the mouths of the minority, he would make his sentiments known. The despatcher should be held responsible for his conduct, and the public should be in possession of them, and the members of the majority should assist in obtaining them.

Mr. HOWAT.—It was of opinion that the constitution of the Legislative Council was a matter of royal prerogative, and, if the Lieutenant Governor had received instructions of a character calculated to ensure harmony and co-operation between the Executive and the House, he did not think that there was any occasion to call for the despatches in which they were embodied.

Mr. DAVIES.—The non-production of despatches was not irreconcileable with the principles of the Government.

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