

he was the ruling spirit, before any such thing was known elsewhere in America. And in no city could there have been found a more hearty reception than among those noble Baltimoreans, whose generous hospitality has well nigh become proverbial.

A decided gain has been effected in the change of organization from national to international. At our London Convention it will be remembered that the question was raised, "Why are not the uniform lessons more generally employed in this country?" It was replied they are selected by persons wholly irresponsible to us, and as we think they are not always wisely selected, so it was resolved to ask the executive Committee of the national Association to give us some representation on the lesson committee. This was no sooner mentioned to our brethren than they said by all means. And we were honored by the appointment of Rev. Gibson, of Montreal, in the East, and this Queenly little city of the West, lying so cozily beneath its mountain ridge was requested to send one of its principal educationists, A. Macallum, Esq., as member of the lesson committee. But the National Association went further, and decided to change the character of their organization from national to international, giving to the provinces of Canada equal representation with the States of the Union. This was the first gathering of the new organization. The attendance at all the sessions was large; many of the delegates had come from a great distance and were men of business, whose time was very valuable, therefore it was important to make the best of every session. They were willing to give what time was necessary, for their object was most important. During the year over \$60,000 had been spent in striving to obtain information which would lead to the recovery of one child to his home and friends; but our object was to devise means and strengthen each other in our plans to recover hundreds of thousands of Charlie Ross's from the paths of sin and lead them back to home, to happiness, and God. The three secretaries with the historical secretary, Mr. W. F. Sherwin, and a phonetic reporter, prepared the minutes at once, not to be read before the convention but for the printed report, so that part of the usual routine was dispensed with, and the time saved was devoted to practical labor.

It has fallen to my lot to speak on the principal subjects of discussion. This it shall be my endeavour to do as briefly as I may.

Dr. John Hall, of New York, introduced the subject of the international lesson scheme. The subject of a uniform course of lessons for the nation and that to be extended finally to all Christian countries, was warmly discussed at Indianapolis in 1872. Mr. Jacobs was mainly instrumental in carrying the measure, and as was pleasantly remarked there "we set up our Jacob's ladder." After the first meeting of the lesson committee was held in New York, in 1872, Dr. Vincent visited England and consulted with the London S. S.