

plan, which was superior to any other system that had been tried. Children were first made familiar with a sound, and they were taught to associate this sound with a certain sign or letter. By this plan we had a sign for every sound in the language, each sign being invariably used to represent the same sound; the pupils soon learned to master all the sounds, and to glide them into words, which when they had done, they learned to read, slowly but surely, any word spelt phonetically. When they had acquired fluency in phonetic reading, the transition to our common reading became a very easy matter; the more active minded children often teach themselves. At the very lowest calculation, we might teach a child as much in one year by this system, as we could by the old in two. The system had been very extensively adopted in America,—was used three years in the Secular School, Edinburgh, by Mr. Williams, who had left,—was used in several schools in Aberdeen; Sheriff Watson, well known in connection with ragged schools, convinced of its utility, had got it introduced into his Female Industrial School, and had lately opened an Infant School on this principle, in which the system had been very successful. But to come nearer home, it had been used for the past four years in the Town Mission School, Haddington, by Mr. Silver, who was present, and could bear witness to the value of the system himself. Mr. Silver said, he was happy to bear his humble testimony in favour of the system before such a meeting, and from his own experience, he was able to corroborate much of what Mr. Ellis had said. An animated discussion followed, in which several teachers took part, and several objections were stated, which were replied to by Messrs. Ellis and Silver respectively. Dr. Gloag proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Ellis, which was warmly responded to.—*Edinburgh Witness.*

EXHIBITION AT PARIS.

The correspondent of a religious newspaper writes:—

“Great preparations are enacting here for the universal Exposition of 1855. The bad news received from the East do not abate the ardour. The Christians on their side endeavour to avail themselves of this opportunity to create a large religious assembly. This is the programme which the Evangelical Alliance published on that subject:—‘The immense concourse of visitors which the Universal Exposition of Industry will undoubtedly attract next summer to Paris, has created the idea in the French Branch of the Evangelical Society to convoke a conference of Evangelical Christians of the whole world, as was the case of that of London on a similar occasion. In order to give this conference an importance really practical, the central committee have caused a series of reports to be prepared, the whole of which will present the richest religious statistic ever yet obtained.’ Seven general reports drawn up by writers of the French tongue will examine, in a universal sense, the following questions:—‘The Evangelical Alliance’—‘Outward difficulties which the progress of the propagation of the Gospel meets with at the present time’—‘Catholicism’—‘Incredulity’—‘Missions among nations not yet brought to Christianity’—‘The observance of the Sabbath’—‘Young Men’s Union.’ Thirteen special reports written by eminent men of different nations, will strive to make known—‘The religious state of England, Scotland, Ireland, America, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, the countries of the North, and Russia, the Turkish Empire, the Jewish nation, and, if possible, of the Austrian States.’ The reporters, as well as the official orators, have been chosen promiscuously in and out of the Alliance. French will be the language spoken at the Conference, but the devotional exercises will take place in French, German and English; besides which, there will be among Christians of the same language special conferences. Arrangements will be made to provide foreign brethren with the means of sojourning in Paris, and taking their meals in common at moderate prices.”

AMERICAN FEELING TOWARDS BRITAIN.

At a Meeting of the *Church Society* held at Montreal, 16th January—the Lord Bishop in the chair:—

The Right Rev. Horatio Potter, D. D., Provisional Bishop of New York moved the second resolution, expressing the thankfulness of the meeting for the unity