

£171,923 12s. 8d., being £10,094 17s. 5d. in advance of the previous year. But the special funds must be added to the foregoing amount. They are as follows:—China, £454 14s. 10d.; India, £61 9s. 6d.; New Building, £14,096 15s. 11d.; Paris Exhibition, £972 4s. 8d.; making a grand total of £187,508 17s. 7d.

The sum applicable to the General Purposes of the Society, or that by which its benevolent operations are sustained throughout the world, is £87,760 16s., being £7,235 3s. 2d. more than was received under this head in the preceding year. It is composed as follows:—

Free Contributions from Auxiliary Societies.....	£54,540	16	4
Legacies .....	15,159	16	7
Donations....	12,063	4	4
Annual Subscriptions.....	2,814	4	0
Dividends.....	3,013	18	0
Collections.....	164	16	9
	<u>£87,760</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>0</u>

The receipt from the sale of Scriptures have been £84,162 16s. 8d. thus divided:—

Sales at homes .....	£52,318	3	2
Sales abroad.....	31,844	13	6

This amount shows an increase on the sale of Scriptures for the year, of £2,859 14s. 3d.

If the receipts have been large, the expenditure has been much larger; and apart from payments made to the contractors for the new building, the ordinary operations of the Society have involved an outlay of £202,318 5s., being £19,916 1s. 7d. in advance of the previous year, and £28,906 3s. 4d. more than the ordinary receipts of the year. This very heavy expenditure will show that the Committee have not hesitated to advance, when opportunities have occurred for the enlargement of operations.

#### ISSUES.

As the sole object of the Society is to promote the wider diffusion of the Holy Scriptures, in our own and all other lands accessible to its agency, the actual issue of the Word of God is the grand test by which the efficiency of the Society must be determined, and every increase which is reported will be hailed as fresh evidence, that God is pleased to employ its instrumentality for the manifestation of His Truth in the world. The total circulation of the Scriptures during the past year has amounted to 2,383,380 copies, being an increase of 87,250 over the circulation of the previous year. Some words of explanation may illustrate the special value to be attached to this increase. On analyzing the figures subjoined, it will be seen that the issues from the Home Depôt have fallen below those of the previous year by 77,068 copies, while the issues from the Foreign Depôts show an increase of 164,318 copies, 120,114 of that number being complete Bibles and Testaments. That there should be some reduction in the demands for the Scriptures in our own country can scarcely excite surprise, in view of