

FUNDS.

During the past year your Committee are happy to report a considerable increase in sales, amounting to no less than £3,284 6s., making a total of £70,958 17s. 2d. On the general benevolent receipts, however they regret to announce a small deficiency. While there has been an increase in subscriptions, there has been a decrease in contributions from auxiliaries of £212 7s. 6d., and in general donations and life subscriptions of £214 10s. 3d.; so that the total of subscriptions, donations, collections, &c., only amounts to £7,507 0s. 9d.

Extracts from the Report.

"COME AND WELCOME TO JESUS."

"Having nearly reached home after a morning ramble, and being within a few yards of the canal, some factory boys ran before, and, turning the little bridge, kept me and two other persons waiting on the other side until after a barge, then at some distance, had passed by. With some degree of impatience, I exclaimed, 'How could you turn the bridge so long before it was necessary, wasting the time of three people? Now, you boys, mind and never do *that again!*' The boat having passed I was hastening across the bridge, when suddenly I recollected my *tracts*, and, running back a few steps, gave one to each of the men who were laboriously towing the boat along, when a tall respectable-looking man at the helm said, 'And haven't ye got one for me, ma'am, if you please?' I felt in my pocket, 'I have not one left,' I replied, 'I have only this little book, which I did not intend to give away; however, you shall have it.' With thanks and a polite bow, he stretched out his hand to receive it. He opened it immediately, and I heard him say, 'Come and Welcome to Jesus Christ! This is just what I *want.*' I turned two or three times in walking homewards, and there was the man, holding the helm with one hand and the book in the other, apparently absorbed in its contents—until he and his barge were hidden from my sight by the trees. Who can say what good may arise from this trifling incident! Had it not been for the detention I should have reached my own abode without giving the tracts, and had I decided on keeping that little gem of John Bunyan's (which had an ornamented cover, and gilt edges,) the helmsman would not have had 'just what he wanted.' How necessary it is sometimes to be prompt, for an opportunity once lost never recurs! 'Duty is ours, results are God's.' I may never see that individual again, but may it not be a link in the chain that shall lead him to the Friend of sinners?"

"Two instances in which the Society's tracts have been made useful to individuals under concern about their souls, have come to my know-