

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
EXHIBITION *for* SCHOOLS
OF
OBJECTS FROM JAPAN

ARRANGED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE
WOMAN'S EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

February 19th through March 5th 8^{~~th~~}
1914-

With the permission of Superintendent Franklin B. Dyer the accompanying circular is sent to Headmasters and Principals of the Boston Public Schools.

The Museum is open free to the public on Saturdays from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., and on Sundays from 1 p.m. till 6 p.m.

It is believed that this exhibition of objects recently brought from Japan will be instructive and useful to teachers and to children.

ELLOR C. RIPLEY,
Committee on Art Museum

Small Models of Rooms
Miniature Utensils and Ornaments of the Rooms
Dry Goods Shop
Peddler's Pack
Fire Pump
Drying Yard
Cage for Singing Insects
Writing Set
Dinner Tray for a Rich Man
Dinner Set for a Poor Man
Tray Garden with Figures and a Bridge
Articles for a Tea Ceremony
Dolls showing Ancient and Modern Costumes

THESE articles were selected especially with the view of interesting children, and of making life in Japan real to them.

There are Festival things for boys and girls. Boys are trained to be strong and self-controlled by means of their Festival, so the boys' objects include weapons and armor, the tiger that stands for courage and the carp that swims against the current, symbolizing aspiration, ambition, effort, and perseverance in the face of obstacles, like Robert Bruce's spider.

Through their Festival the girls are taught the domestic arts, so the girls' Festival things show all household utensils and ornaments, in miniature, and also dolls.

There are dolls here in ancient and modern dress from the court noble and the aristocratic young girl, whose formal position shows she is wearing her best clothes, to the care-free, happy-go-lucky errand boy, Chokichi (meaning everlasting good luck) who, one can see, is dressed for a fair day, for his kimono is not tucked up above his knees, and he is wearing sandals; if it were raining he would have on his clogs.

The carpenter is here with his coat marked "carpenter" in front and on the back, and he has a box of tools with him.

There is the city shopkeeper with his wife, and the school-girl with her books in her hand and American shoes on her feet. She is very modern.

A large doll represents a rich baby about four years old. Her name is O Hana San ; O meaning Honorable, San corresponds to Miss, and Hana means flower and is a usual Japanese name, like Mary in English. All her accessories are very complete and are in perfect Japanese taste. She has two sleeping mats, for the Japanese do not use sheets. The Emperor's sleeping mats are made of this kind of silk, only his are white, and he sleeps on sixteen, one piled above the other. O Hana San wears all her fine clothes at once. They were made under Japanese supervision by the Japanese court dressmaker, who made the wedding dress for Admiral Togo's daughter. The dressmaker was very serious, behaving always exactly as if O Hana San were alive, and using the most polite forms of speech about her. She comes to the children of Boston from a land where courtesy extends even to dolls.

The utensils and ornaments in the miniature rooms, the living room, kitchen, and drying yard have been arranged by Mr. Tomita, of the Museum, in the Japanese manner.

It is hoped that this collection in miniature will not only make life in Japan more vivid to the children of Boston but that it will, perhaps, also serve so to stimulate their interest in Japanese life that some, at least, may be led to an understanding and appreciation of the valuable collection in the Museum.

This exhibition also met with a cordial response from teachers and schools. It is of value to teachers of geography, of drawing and of contemporary history.