

## Foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M.

*Expect great things from God.  
Attempt great things for God.*

## SECRETARY'S LETTER.

DEAR SISTERS,—We have another letter from Sister Riach this month, telling us about the opening of the Charity School in which we are all interested.

The annual meeting of the churches of Ontario opens on the second of June. The reports and greetings from Maritime C. W. B. M. have been sent in.

We were very sorry to have to report a falling off in our receipts during the year

Dear sisters, this should not be. We had hoped for and expected a steady gain, as the interest in our missionary work deepened.

Let us hope and let us pray that none may lose heart or become luke-warm in this cause, but remembering "whose we are and whom we serve" may we go forward, for the battle is the Lord's. This is his work. Let us then "be of good courage," and work more faithfully than ever before, that at our annual meeting in September we may rejoice in seeing that our work is not going backward, but forward, and accomplishing much for Christ.

MRS. J. S. FLAGLOR.  
*Secretary.*

FROM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN.

2 Kubo Machi, Otsuka,  
Koishi Kawa Ku,  
Tokio, Japan, April 13, 1896.

To the O. and Maritime Provinces, C. W. B. M.:

DEAR SISTERS,—It is about time you were hearing from Japan.

On the 7th of March the opening of the newly completed school took place. The rooms were decorated with Japanese, American and British flags, and huge bouquets of plum blossoms. Most of the missionaries in our part of the city and the school children's parents, besides a few interested friends, were invited, and they nearly all came to rejoice with us.

We had a few speeches of course—some from the Japanese and others from the missionaries. A congratulatory address by the head boy, and songs and recitations by the children completed the programme, after which the guests crowded around with congratulations to Furukawa San (an old teacher of mine who had looked after the building of the school), Kato San (my Bible woman), and myself.

We returned home with grateful and happy hearts for all God had done for us to help us extend his work in this part of the city.

Since we have had the new building the attendance has increased very much. Have found it necessary to have an assistant teacher. The Sunday-school, too, has taken on new life, and now we have sixty and over every Lord's day.

But you will wish to know the plan of the school. Besides the caretaker's room, which

is attached, there are two school-rooms, separated by wooden sliding doors that may be taken out if desired.

One room has a board floor, with benches and desks a little like the rude ones they used to have in the first school-houses in Canada. The other room is covered with the three inch thick straw mats that floors are furnished with here. In this room we have the lowest classes. The children sit on their heels and have low desks in front of them. This room is also used for sewing classes and women's meetings. Especially for the latter is this room necessary. The women being used to sit on the floor do not enjoy sitting on benches. They get so tired, and feel out of place too. It is not an uncommon thing to see women in the railroad train, after sitting on the seats for about ten minutes, slip off their wooden shoes, stand up on the seat and squat on their heels with a sigh of comfort and satisfaction—something like the sigh I give when, after sitting on my heels for more than an hour, I get a chance to stand or take a seat.

Last Friday was the day for yearly closing examination. The sliding doors were taken out, making the two rooms into one. The parents, of whom a large number came, sat in the matted room, while the children were crowded three and four on a bench in the other room.

After singing and prayer and recitation of the 103rd Psalm by the children, the certificates and prizes were given out. After a short talk to the children, praising them for their efforts of the past year and encouraging them to greater efforts for the coming year, they were dismissed, to resume work again the following Monday.

Last night, one of the biggest earthquakes of the season shook us up considerably, so much so that most of us feel the effects of it on our nerves to-day. Have heard of no damage resulting from it.

Dear sisters, may this letter find you all well, and not forgetful to pray for the work here, and

Yours, very lovingly,  
MARY M. RIOCH.

## RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged, . . . .	\$185 68
Tiverton, Ladies' Aid, . . . .	3 00
Cornwallis, Ladies' Aid, . . . .	3 70
St. John, Ladies' Aid, . . . .	1 75
" Sunday-school, . . . .	5 00
" Main Street church, . . . .	5 00
Pomeroy, R. Jackson, . . . .	1 00

Total, . . . . \$205 13

## CHILDREN'S WORK.

Previously acknowledged, . . . .	\$54 17
Halifax, "O Gin San" Band . . . .	2 25
Charlottetown, Golden Link Band, . . . .	2 00
St. John, Wideawake Band, . . . .	1 10

Total, . . . . \$59 52

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"God's angels drop, like grains of gold,  
Our duties midst life's shining sands,  
And from them, one by one, we mold  
Our own bright crown with patient hands.  
From dust and dross we gather them;  
We toil and stoop for love's sweet sake,  
To find each worthy act a gem  
In glory's kingly diadem,  
Which we may daily richer make."

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More names will be added as they are appointed

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