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THE

KASSAI HERALD.



DEVOTED TO THE WORK
OF THE
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN
CONGO MISSION

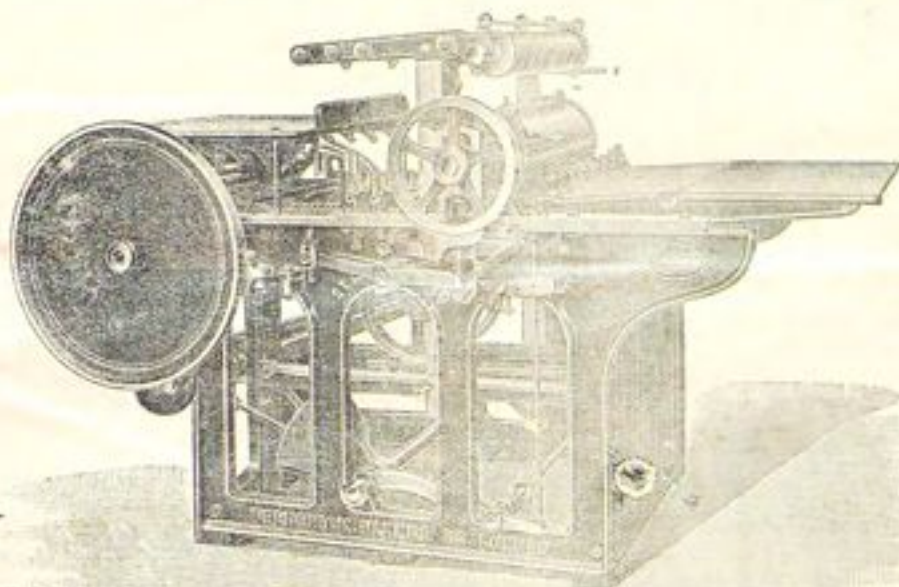
THE J. LEIGHTON WILSON PRINTING HOUSE.

THE KASSAI HERALD.

W. M. MORRISON, Editor.

Luebo, Congo Free State, Africa. January 1, 1908.

The New Cylinder Press.



The above is a picture of the new cylinder press which was secured some years ago through the liberality of friends in America. The installation of this new press in a new brick printing-house, which has just been completed, marks the beginning of a new era in our Printing Department. A good quantity of type and other supplies is on the way, and we are looking forward with bright prospects to catching up in the near future with the ever increasing demands for our native literature. So great, in fact, have been these demands that nearly every edition is now exhausted.

We have in anticipation several new books, some or all of which we hope to bring out during the year. The manuscript for First and Second Read-

ers in the Baluba dialect is in hand and there is in course of preparation the full series of the International S. S. Lessons in the Baluba dialect. This latter will give an outline of the Bible until the slower and more difficult translation of the whole Bible is ready for publication, which will require perhaps many years of work.

Our Printing Department is supported through the liberality of the Second Church of St. Joseph, Mo. We believe we are safe in saying that no other department of our work can show such splendid results.

It may interest some to know that this press was on the old "Lapsley" when she sank. It shows, however, but little signs of having been at the bottom of the Congo river.

go very soon, and then once or twice a year to return to her village. We shall have her until her career on the Mission is finished, when we hope her little history of light and usefulness, just begun, may terminate in great blessings to her people.

The Girls' Homes.

By Mrs. L. G. Sheppard.

In the early years of the Mission it was an almost daily occurrence to see little children, in the hands of cruel slave traders, being sold into permanent slavery. These children had been torn from their fathers and mothers by the raiders, because the chief of the village could not pay the tribute demanded.

So, when little Ntumba came trudging up the path toward the station between two stalwart Zappo Zapps, the Missionaries decided to redeem her, as the price was very small. But where were they to put her? Finally a Home for some of these unfortunates was decided on.

At first, parents living near the Mission refused to bring their children for training in the Home, because they did not understand what it meant.

But as the months and years went by, and as these little ex-slaves developed into fine women, the parents began to see that we had only the good of their children in mind. So, one by one, fathers and mothers came with their little girls, begging us to take them for training. Some of those thus sent are children of prominent men in the interior, and we hope through them to get a stronger hold on the many villages thus represented in the Homes.

No feature of our work has been more encouraging than that done in the Pantops Home at Luebo and the Maria Cary Home

at Ibanj. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

A Sunday School in Central Africa.

By A. A. Rochester.

It has been said that the Sunday School is the nursery of the church, and this statement holds good just as well in Africa as in America. But one may ask, How is a Sunday School conducted in Central Africa, where conditions are, of necessity, much different from what they are in America? First of all, we are now using the International Series of Sunday School Lessons, the same as used all over the world. There are frequent reviews, and it is astonishing to see how perfectly the lessons are remembered, especially as many of the pupils cannot yet read. We make no distinction as to age—no one ever graduates from the Sunday School.

There is a teachers' meeting which convenes every Friday. Here the lesson is carefully gone over and explained by a Missionary, always bringing out the practical thoughts.

The hour of the Sunday School is 5 p. m. There is an opening hymn, a prayer, and another hymn. Then the Superintendent reviews the past lesson and indicates when the study of the new lesson is to begin. There is always a memory verse, with its explanation. After the lesson has been taught another review comes. It is interesting to see how the classes vie with each other in answering the questions. After the review comes the report of the Secretary, then more hymns, closing all with the Lord's Prayer in concert.

The Sunday School at Luelo averages from 500 to 700, at Ibanj we have from 250 to 500, and there are a number of schools in the out-stations.