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## AFRICAN LANGUAGES

The Kongo languages may be described as onomatopoeic, a word which may be defined as representing a system of coining words from sounds. For example, in the same manner that our children say "Puff-puff,' to indicate a train, so the African savages use the words "Watamba tamba" to describe men who march in large bodies, in imitation of the sound of their footsteps. "Watuku tuku" was also coined by them to designate white men, beacuse they associate them with the sound of the engines of their river steamers. The first syllable "wa" in each case represents the plural prefix denoting people.

The letter f and the vowels so preponderate in the language that when the missionaries had a press sent out to print the Bible, they had to send back for extra vowels and f's. The beauty and plastic form of these languages are noticeable, with something of the softness of the Ital-

ian, the grace of French and the precision of English. Alliteration amounts almost to rhyme, and it is interesting to remember that this euphonious peculiarity is also found in early English. The language is indeed governed by an alliterative concord.—Scribner's.

Beatrice Guyette has the best and neatest room in McBride Hall. She attends to it every day so it is not hard to keep in good order.

Fannie Adams averaged one hundred in spelling Tuesday morning in the seventh grade.

Margaret Desautel has been working in the sewing room for a few months and is now one of the best dress makers.

Miss Troutman says Ma.tie Henry is the best floor girl she has when it comes to working out in the garden or helping with the plants.