

authority to have 600 copies of the reports, rules, etc., printed, and that they make such changes in the rules as they deem expedient and report at next meeting. The authority was granted.

The committee also reported that the slips submitted to them by the publishers of the geography (Utah edition) were unsatisfactory, and they had prepared a statement of the resources, climate, etc., of Utah to be forwarded to the publishers. The report was approved.

The action of the committee on sites and building in procuring a room to store books was approved.

Young moved that the board buy from Mr. Campbell such additional Kyune stone as may be necessary to finish the Washington school, the price to be uniform with the contract price. The motion was adopted.

Joseph B. Toronto and L. C. Worstel were elected examiners.

#### APPROPRIATIONS.

W. W. Riter, balance on lot .....	\$ 8,000 00
Telher & Hansecker, extra work on Franklin school.....	1,233 48
A. Stiefel.....	64 66
H. T. Duke, tax refunded.....	964 21

Total.....\$11,262 35

#### LIFE IN DAHOMEY.

The kingdom of Dahomey is inhabited by one of the finest races who live on the mysterious African soil, according to a writer in the *New York Post*. We do not find there a horde of savages, who live like the common brute, from hand to mouth, without any object, but rather a laborious people, which is ruled by a crafty tyrant and shrewd councilors. The kings of Dahomey, as in the dark ages of feudalism, rule their subjects by the terror and awe they inspire, and are regarded by them as the representatives of the invisible Deity. In order to preserve this religious character they are bound to follow the practices of their ancestors. A king who would suddenly break with the gloomy practices of his forefathers would at once forfeit all prestige in the eyes of his subjects. To this condition of things the still prevailing practice of the shocking human sacrifices must be attributed, for, as will be shown further on, they are a political and, above all, a religious necessity, and strikingly recall the bloody pages of the Inquisition.

Yet we must not forget in severely censuring the barbarity of the kings of Dahomey that we find in the country ruled by them, laws, institutions and an organization that are perfectly adapted to the country, besides a police and a custom-house system which are not inferior to any in the world. As a rule the administration in the kingdom works like clockwork, although affidavits and official documents are unknown. Crimes are severely punished and consequently very rare. Europeans and wealthy Christian native merchants from the coast, who are at certain periods traveling in the interior, have never been attacked by robbers, nor have they ever lost a single object by theft.

The King, called Dana, by the natives, is absolute master of everything, for people and property belong to him; individual possession of land or

wealth is legally only a sufferance, and even the European factories on the coast, though duly paid for, are called "the King's houses." Land and other property is granted to the leading families, and slaves, who till the ground, raise cattle and extract palm oil. At any moment, however, the king may deprive his subjects of land, wealth and even life, or claim, without any reason whatever, a part of their profits.

The King has attached to his person a number of principal chiefs, who are all members of his family and are his principal advisers; yet in spite of these powerful ministers, who always agree with their master's opinions, the King's authority is subjected to the occult power of the fetish priests, to whose highest degree he is admitted the day he ascends the throne.

Women, who in Dahomey, as all over Africa, are generally regarded as inferior beings, are elevated to a high rank when they become the King's wives, the number of whom under some dynasties has been very great. For instance, the late King Glegle was said to have possessed more than 1000 wives. Everybody gets out of the royal ladies' way, bows respectfully and shuts his eyes when they pass by in the public square. Woe to those who would dare to look at these ladies or insult them. They are under the surveillance of eunuchs and play a very important part in the country's politics. The assist at the State councils, and their advice has great weight with the king and councilors. They refresh the king's memory on certain subjects and prepare the speeches he delivers to the chiefs and the people.

Whatever has any connection with the royal wives becomes sacred. There is, for instance, a pretty little bird in the country called "the queen's bird," to touch which or annoy is severely prohibited, and these little creatures are surprisingly familiar. They enter the house, eating the food out of your hands and behaving like domesticated creatures. The influence of the favorite beauties is so great that every European factory is represented at court by one of them who is called "the white man's mother," and who has charge to defend the interest of her protegee. The leaders of the Amazons enjoy the same prerogative and have precedence before the most influential chiefs of the country.

#### ANOTHER SCHEME.

Another class of confidence men is now operating in this Territory with a view to swindling such persons as may be foolish enough to enter into contract with them. The following letter was received by a prominent Federal official today:

Dear Sir:—Although we are strangers to each other, I have concluded to take a dare-devil chance of jeopardizing my liberty in endeavoring to secure your confidence and friendly co-operation in a scheme which, if grasped now, will make you independently rich, and will at the same time better my own condition.

There is no doubt but what this communication contains some rather startling and unexpected information. Indeed, it is in relation to a matter of great importance and requires serious and careful consideration.

I am now going to write plainly and to the point. Before I begin, however, I wish to assure you candidly that no harm or insult is intended, so if I have made a mistake in addressing you, or the proposition I suggest should prove objectionable, I trust you will not be so heartless as to betray one who is willing to be your friend and benefactor.

The writer is now nearly 75 years of age, and for 23 years was the superintendent of steel engraving in one of the largest and best equipped bank-note companies in this country. During my leisure time I took up as a side issue the engraving of some Duplicates which, I can conscientiously say and prove to your entire satisfaction, cannot be distinguished from the genuine articles that are issued by the government.

Now, my dear sir, my age and physical condition is such that I require the assistance of others throughout the country to assist in the distribution of these articles; I therefore seek a trustworthy individual, who has a few hundred dollars to invest in a scheme of this kind, to act as agent and push their circulation in your locality.

If you think favorably of this matter and wish to have me present evidence which will satisfy the most sceptical that my statements are pure and unadulterated facts, I will, on receipt of a telegram from you, be more than pleased to appoint a place of safety for an interview where you can thoroughly examine the goods and subject them to any test whatever you may desire.

My terms are twenty per cent. on the dollar. The lowest amount you can invest is \$200 and the highest \$5,000.

Yours sincerely,

W. E. GRAHAM.

P.S. Correspondence on this matter through the mails is illegal, and extraordinary precautions must be taken by mail order to avoid being arrested for this abuse. The only way you can reach me is by telegraph. (No letters—remember that.) Simply send a prepaid telegram addressed "W. E. Graham, ....." and say, "Write insurance policy for," then sign your name and address, where a reply will be sure to reach you.

Remember, your address must accompany your name, as the one I now have will be immediately destroyed, to avoid any unforeseen accidents.

Of course no one but ourselves will know its meaning, so have no fear.

#### DEATHS.

SCROGGIE.—In Salt Lake City, August 17th, 1892, of hernia, Archibald Scroggie, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

FULLMER.—In Salt Lake City, August 11th, of general debility, Rhoda Ann Marvin, relict of the late David Fullmer, in the eightieth year of her age.

EAGAR.—In Union ward, St. Johns stake, Apache County, Arizona, August 11th, 1892, of diphtheria, Harriet Sarah, daughter of John T. and Harriet Eliza Eagar, and grand daughter of Elder James L. Bunting, of Kanab, aged thirteen years four months and twenty-six days.

PRICE.—Aug. 16th, 1892, at Washington, Washington Co., Utah, of general debility and old age, Eliza Adair Price. Deceased was born in Nashville, Tennessee, Nov. 11th, 1810, baptized Nov. 10th, 1844, by Elder Daniel Thomas and came to Utah in 1851. She arrived with her husband, Brother John Price, at Dixie in 1857, and assisted in establishing the Cotton Mission. She was a thorough Latter-day Saint. It was her constant delight to converse on the principles of the Gospel as restored in these last days, and to bear testimony to its divine authenticity. She was the mother of eleven children, thirty-five grand children, forty-one great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. She leaves an aged husband to mourn her death.