

Thursday morning at an early hour they crossed into Sonora afoot and struck across the desert toward the mountains, where they had their old home.

"The news of their disappearance from Nogales was telegraphed to the Governor of Sonora, who notified all the subordinate authorities to keep a lookout for the fugitives and to show them no mercy if captured.

"Late on Thursday evening the rurales, or frontier guards at Cibola discovered Saint Teresa and her father making their way south through the chaparral.

"They were arrested and taken into town, and on the public plaza of the place Saint Teresa is said to have been shot to death. The life of her aged father was spared, but he was taken to Guaymas under a heavy guard.

### THE KNIGHTS OF RECIPROCITY.

THERE exists in the United States a secret political society named the Knights of Reciprocity. It was first organized in February, 1891, and was more or less a direct outgrowth of the Kansas elections of 1890. It will be remembered that the Farmers' Alliance of that year promulgated platforms of a most radical nature, including sub-treasury schemes, absolute free trade, government loans and several other socialistic projects. The Knights of Reciprocity, finding, perhaps, that a golden mean between the extreme Alliance men and the extreme party men would be the best, organized a society mainly for political education, but providing also for social and recreative entertainments.

For the convenience of organizing and extending the order a short political catechism was formulated, and each candidate for membership was and is required to answer the following questions:

- "1. Are you in favor of the perpetuity of our Union?
- "2. Are you in favor of just and liberal pensions to all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the republic?
- "3. Are you in favor of the protection of American industries?
- "4. Are you in favor of fair and equitable reciprocity between all nations on the American continent?
- "5. Are you in favor of fair and equitable reciprocity between all interests in our nation?
- "6. Are you in favor of an intelligent ballot, honestly cast and counted?
- "Are you in favor of disfranchising every citizen who offers or accepts a bribe to influence a ballot?"

In Tennessee, where the convict labor question has been a burning one for some time, one more question is added, namely:

"Are you in favor of the abolition of the convict labor question as it exists in this State?"

There is no question as to party proclivities or party feelings. In both the old parties are individuals who favor moderate protection combined with reciprocity, hence the reciprocity idea forms the political basis of the order, and thus from it derives its name. All these questions, it is supposed, must be answered in the affirmative to qualify for eligibility. But the order must not be used for electioneering purposes in the interest of any party or individual. The members are, however, pledged to vote for

the candidates who most closely represent the principles to which they have subscribed.

It is thought that this organization will figure largely in the pending election. At present there are 206 lodges in Kansas, 384 in Missouri, and 94 in Louisiana. The order is represented in New York, Nebraska, Maryland and ten other States. Forty-eight lecturers are already on the road organizing and extending the order into every State and Territory in the Union. The object is to draw every citizen who favors reciprocity into closer sympathy with each other, and then vote for the party which most nearly represents their ideas.

The organization is simple. There is a Supreme Lodge composed of two delegates from each State lodge. Its headquarters at present are in Garden city, Kansas, but after the next annual meeting they will be transferred to Washington, D. C. The state lodge is composed of representatives from subordinate lodges, and meet twice a year.

As reciprocity, especially with the American nations, is favored very strongly by the Republican party, it looks as if this order would be of no small advantage to it. Its main object is, however, to offset the Farmers' Alliance, and it is stronger in those States where that party is also strongest, and it looks as if by a fusion of conservative Democrats and Republicans the alliance may be materially weakened.

### THE CZAR'S TYRANNY.

THOSE who imagine that the social and governmental condition of Russia is exaggerated by those who are opposed to the Czar's system, should keep on reading until they obtain a better comprehension. That potentate's absolute sway is so conclusive, so sweeping and so searching that we who have been born and reared under gentler circumstances can scarcely conceive of it at all. It is a proper subject to discuss, for the reason that it is such an anomaly in the midst of an enlightened age, and Russia is the greatest nation in a division of the earth where all else is civilization, progress and more or less enlightenment. The thought that at such a time and under such circumstances there can be found a hundred million white people whose ruler is their master as well and whose will is the supreme law of the land, is repulsive; what, then, must be the experience itself?

Poultney Bigelow, traveler and writer, has made several ineffectual attempts to journey through the dark empire, being invariably arrested and turned back before he got very far. Last fall he succeeded in penetrating to certain distances in different places along the western border of the Czar's dominions, and acquired sufficient material for a little volume of 176 pages, which he entitles "The German Emperor and his Eastern Neighbors." In it he explains the situation as affecting the ruler and the ruled in Russia in a few lines, they being a portion of an interview which the au-

thor had with a Polish playwright. He said:

"The matter is extremely simple—limited, in fact, to thirty words, the use of which must be avoided. For example, 'nation' must not be used; it suggests Poland. 'King' is objectionable, as well as 'kingdom,' for both are in contrast to the Czar and his empire. I must never use the word 'emperor,' it might imply that there was an Austrian or a German emperor, whereas in Russia there is but the Czar. 'Independence' is of course insulting to the government, so are 'freedom,' 'liberty,' 'constitution,' 'parliament,' which are obviously in the nature of *lese majeste*. We must not only avoid the use of these bare words in any sense, but we must most carefully avoid any suggestion that might imply the assistance of such a thing as Poland. Polish history does not exist in Russia; for how can there be a history for a tract of land figuring only as a province of the Czar? The name of my country cannot be used, for officially we are not Poles, but are only known to our masters as inhabitants of the military department of the Vistula."

One would think that even the Czar, guarding jealously his power as an heirloom in the royal household, is more punctilious than is necessary or is consistent with real dignity; but he does not rest there, his freaks and spasms of imagined unfriendliness leading him to acts of oppression bordering on criminality. For instance, a large and respectable business concern in Warsaw last year undertook to open a branch house elsewhere in Poland, but the police would not allow the place to be opened, because the proprietors were suspected of entertaining liberal ideas. They (the police) will not allow favorable mention to be made of anything done or said by a Pole, the design being to make it appear that Poland cannot produce men of intellectual ability. It is related that an excellent Polish writer, who had made a scientific voyage to another country, was interviewed as to his experiences, but not a word of it was allowed to appear in print by the government censor, the only reason given being that it would advertise the writer. And so on, through a dreary list that might be produced, each case containing some overt or poorly concealed intent to harass, hinder or harm.

But for the effect which it would have produced upon the outside world and the prominence of the man, the generous Count Tolstoi would not have been permitted to prosecute his labors of love among the starving subjects of the Czar last winter, and it may readily be understood that the first act of the Count's which by any means of distortion can be construed into an offense against the despot, will be taken advantage of to harass if not to injure or drive the humanitarian away. Personally, Alexander is reported as a rather agreeable person, highly accomplished and disposed to be hospitable; but officially he is not to be emulated or admired.

The Paper Trade Club of Chicago, representing nearly all the paper manufacturers of the city, is arranging for an interesting display at the World's Fair.