

Bro. P. M. Savery, of Mississippi, says "life is too short for everybody to be an expert ritualist, therefore learn the essentials. Learn them orally. Let the embellishments alone until you get a foundation, then learn all you possibly can of the rest."

FOREIGN.

The Grand Orient of the Republic of Chili, at Valparaiso, is in regular activity. It has seven constituent Lodges, which are doing good work.

The United Grand Orient of Lusitania, at Lisbon, Portugal, was organized October 30, 1869. It comprised 70 constituent Lodges and 2850 brethren.

"There is nothing to prevent women being Freemasons," said Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, in his lecture at St. George's Hall, London, on "The Past, Present and Future of Freemasonry."

Freemasonry is in a flourishing condition in India. Under the Grand Lodge of England, there are 42 Lodges in Bengal, 42 in Bombay, 8 in Burma, and 22 in Madras. Under the Grand Lodge of Scotland there are also 33 Lodges, making a total of 151 Lodges.

The Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge of India, has this paragraph: "The Grand Lodge revenues have been ample. We own a magnificent property. We have a surplus in the treasury. We owe no man anything. I congratulate you upon this state of affairs."

"In 1775, there was a ladies' Lodge at St. Petersburg, and it was carried on with all true Masonic dignity for several years. But we have a record nearer home than that, of a lady—the great aunt of the present Mrs. Basil Wilberforce—becoming a Freemason," and, as Dr. Richardson says, "remaining one of the best who ever entered the Craft."

We are sometimes led to advise those seeking membership in the fraternity to keep out because they cannot afford it. A man has no right to join any society at the expense of his own

or his family's comfort. Masonry is not an asylum or school of correction intended to reform men; it seeks only to make reformed men better; neither is it an institution of benevolence, where the man goes to receive monetary benefits or better a crippled condition; it takes care of its own when misfortune overtakes them. He should be able to support himself and family and to lay aside something for a rainy day before he joins a Masonic Lodge.

Miscellaneous.

THE VIEWLESS TEMPLE

LAWRENCE N. GREENLEAF.

The temple made of wood and stone may crumble and decay,
But there's a viewless fabric which shall never fade away;

Age after age each Mason strives to carry out the plan,

But still the work's unfinished which those ancient Three began.

None but immortal eyes may view complete in all its parts,

The Temple formed of Living Stones—the structure made of hearts.

'Neath every form of government, in every age and clime,

Amid the world's convulsions and the gastly wrecks of time,

While empires rise in splendor and are conquered and o'erthrown,

And cities crumble into dust, their vey sites unknown,

Beneath the sunny smile of peace, the threatening frown of strife,

Lo! Masonry has stood unmoved—with age renewed her life.

She claims her votaries in all climes, for none are under ban,

Who place implicit trust in God, and love their fellow-man.

The heart that shares another's woe, beats just as warm and true,

Within the breast of Christian, or Moham-madan, or Jew.

She levels all distinctions from the highest to the least,

The King must yield obedience to the Peasant in the East.

What honored names on history's page, o'e whose brave deeds we pour,

Have knelt before our sacred shrine, and trod our checkered floor!