



The Free Gardeners of Australasia.

MR. CHARLES ROBBIE, GRAND MASTER.

Mr. Charles Robbie, Grand Master of the Grand United Order of Free Gardeners of Australasia, was born in the town of Forfar (Scotland) on August 4, 1854, and received his education in the East Borough School of that town. He was then apprenticed as a gardener at Kirktonhill (Kincardineshire), the residence of Mr. George Taylor, J.P.; and after he had served his apprenticeship he underwent the usual probation of a journeyman gardener in various gentlemen's gardens in the counties of Kincardine and Fairfax. He then succeeded in obtaining the situation of head gardener to Mr. Allan Edward, of Farrington Hall, Dundee, in which situation he remained until after that gentleman's death. He next entered the employment of Mr. Alexander Low, J.P., of Tay Park, Dundee, as head gardener, where he remained eight years. About five years ago he resolved to try his fortune in Australia, and on landing in Sydney was engaged as gardener by Mr. Andrew Brown, J.P., of Coerwull, Bowenfels, where he remained two years. He then removed to his present situation as manager to Messrs. J. Gibson and Co.

mained two years. He then removed to his present situation as manager to Messrs. J. Graham and Co., at their Lilydale nursery, Marrickville. His connection with the Free Gardeners is comparatively recent, as he was initiated into the order in Lodge No. 5 in November, 1885. After attaining the necessary degrees, he was elected delegate to the Grand Lodge, and has successively filled the offices of Grand Junior Warden and Grand Deputy Master, and was elected Grand Master at the last annual election of Grand Lodge officers.
