

into it more thoroughly by quoting some of our best known weeds, giving a few methods as to their destruction.

Probably most will be familiar with the following: the Canada thistle, couch grass, wild mustard, wild flax, wild oat, ragweed, blue weed, and the ox-eye daisy. The Canada thistle is a very troublesome weed, being a perennial plant, and it is doubly to be feared, since it propagates itself both by its roots and its seeds. A-hoed crop will prove useful in getting rid of it, since by unearthing it by means of the horse hoe during the hot weather, it must die. Another experiment has acted well, namely to cut the thistle about six inches above the level of the ground: the rain goes down the stalk and thus rots the roots. This however usually necessitates a bare fallow. Couch grass is another perennial plant and a difficult one to eradicate from the ground. A well known farmer in the province of Quebec was only the other day expressing his opinion on this obnoxious weed: he explained what a strong hold it took on the ground and how difficult it was to dislodge it. Almost the only way to destroy it is to plough the infested field early in June: then sow thickly with buckwheat, which crop tends to smother it. When the wheat is in blossom, plough it under and sow thickly with buckwheat again. The following year it would be advisable to have a hoed crop, even if the general rotation has to be broken into. Wild mustard is an annual plant, producing a great quantity of seeds: it must be prevented from ripening its seeds. This can be accomplished by having a hoed crop, or if the plants are not too numerous, by pulling them out by hand. Wild flax is an annual plant, often found in crops of hay: if it is only in small quantities, it would be well to pull it out by hand, but otherwise it would be advisable to convert the hay crop into a soiling crop, cutting it in its green state, before it has ripened. The wild oat is another annual plant, and since it propagates itself by its seeds, the only successful way is to prevent it from ripening its seeds. Rag weed is an annual plant, growing late in the season: on this account we often find it in stubble. If the infested field be a stubble plough it under, as early as possible, so as to destroy the plants before the seeds ripen. Blue weed is a biennial plant and is best destroyed by devoting the land to a hoed crop. The ox, eye daisy is a perennial plant found often in meadow pastures. If the infested field is in sod, it is best to turn it over, and sow corn the same spring. These are experiments that have been successful, and will I am sure prove so again. However, for land that is covered with weeds, a summer fallow is almost the only alternative, and coupled with frequent cultivation is sure to prove satisfactory. One should always be careful too about the seed we buy, to see that it has no inferior seeds in it: this displays an important part among our crops. Make the man from whom you buy your seed guarantee that it is free from the seeds of weeds.

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### BETTER PROSPECTS FOR FARMERS.

The grain markets in the United Kingdom are just now in a dull, not to say drooping state. It is hardly to be expected that they eventually reach a decided declining condition. The English and American markets have been acting and reacting one upon the other, with the result that the level of prices is slightly less than it was. For all that, however, wheat of the best quality is quoted as high as at any period during the past advance, and so is flour. This applies to both British and foreign.

The English official average price of wheat was in the last return, a trifle higher than the week before, and so the slackness in trade, no doubt due to a

(1) And the cure is almost as bad as the disease; for the samples of grain are thenceforth full of buckwheat and unfit for seed.—E.D.