

could afford the expense of three or four loads of stone, and a little cement for the ponds.

Let us lay one out now on paper—we will make this little garden at the extreme end of a city lot—the lot to be forty feet wide and it does not matter what length (as we are only going to use sixteen feet of it) provided it is sufficient to show our garden off to advantage. You can read up some authority on how to construct the lily ponds as we will not go into the details of it here. The sixteen feet is enough to allow a planting of shrubs for a background which is necessary if we want the effect to be good.

A strong retaining wall will be needed at the back and sides, of the same height as the front wall—three feet, we will decide upon. As it will be hidden by the earth, it can be built of brick or made of cement. The front wall is the one that has to be laid and earth should be crammed into each crevice and the Alpines planted in their little crannies, as the work progresses and the soil filled in behind them, giving each plant a chance to send its roots into the soil on the inward side of the wall, with only its neck through the opening.

We must not make the mistake of placing the plants all along the wall at an even height. The more irregularly they are put in the more natural they will look. Nature abhors straight lines. We can take our choice of many beautiful things, all of which rejoice in such a situation, such as the charming dwarf campanulas ("Bell-flowers," "Hare Bells," etc.) from *C. carpatica* and its many fine hybrids, down to the tiny *C. pusilla*, only three inches high, which is smothered with its wealth of bloom. (It comes in deep blue-purple, pale mauve-blue, and pure white.) *Corydalis lutea* with fern-like leaves and tiny golden flowers, many species of diathus, including such lovely pinks as "Her Majesty" and the old fashioned double pink one, with the dark zone, will do admirably planted close to the stone on the top of the wall where their branches can hang over, while the tiny ones, like the "Maiden Pink" (*D. deltoidea*) are planted in the crevices. We could experiment with some of the lovely little mossy saxifragas and see if they would stand our climate. "Guildford seedling" is a little gem with rich crimson flowers. Of the taller kinds we know that "London Pride" (*S. umbrosa*) is fairly hardy, and of the large leaved ones for the top of the wall, *S. cordifolia* is quite so, and its leathery leaves are very decorative. We can also use the dainty "Barrenworts" (*Epi-mediums*) freely on the top of the wall.

Where other things are not obtainable we can always fill in with the three hardy alyssums (*A. saxatile*, *A. saxatile* var. *citrinum*, and *A. argenteum*), the single and double forms of the white "Rock Cress" (*Arabis albidula*), "Snow in Summer," and other varieties of *cerastium*, and the purple "Rock Cress" (*Aubrietia*), which comes now in many pretty shades.

At the base of the wall where it curves round the bench we can put some of our lovely wild ferns.

Japanese Iris, "Cat Tails," and "Arrow Heads" we can group round the pond where the soil is wet, and in the drier soil we can use "Day Lilies" (*Flunkias*) and "Lemon Lilies" (*Hemerocallis*) for their admirable foliage effect as well as their flowers. Back of the wall in front of the shrubs various choice perennials can be placed, graduating them in height as they approach the wall. At each side are stone steps leading up to the top of the wall and odd flat stones placed here and there on the earth would form a convenient pathway to get at the flowers at the back and attend to their wants, without leaving unsightly footmarks.

Those who have hillside gardens could very easily make a wall of this kind, as the slant of the hill would hold up the earth without any retaining wall, and all they would need would be the laid wall in front and a few loads of earth to fill in behind it.

Jumpers are very useful evergreens on rock work as they are a rich dark green and are low growing, making excellent foils for the pale green foliage of many things. The pretty little dwarf cedars are also very useful.

The sweet peas at the Holland House show were wonderful as regards size, color, and length of stem. The names of the different varieties now is legion. "Mrs. E. J. Johnston," a new seedling, is a wonderfully fine bright pink. "Czarina" seemed to me to be the loveliest of all the lovely salmon pinks. "Eric Harvey" is a very fine rosy pink, the reverse of the petals being as good a color as the front of the flower. "Freedra Unwin" is a beautiful grey-

mauve shading to white, and "Frank Dolby" a deeper shade of the same color. "Paradise Ivory" is a very soft pale cream. "Edna Unwin," a grand orange pink. "Mrs. C. W. Beardmore" is a cream, daintily tinged with pink—I fell very much in love with her. "Mrs. Townsend" is a lovely mauve and white. There were hosts of others, but these were the new ones and were specially fine.

A great treat to me was a visit to the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens, at Wisley, about twenty-three miles from London. They have some sixty acres, but at present it is not all used for gardening, but there is no lack of room.

The place is all laid out along natural

lines as far as possible. The "wild garden" is very charming, situated on a gentle slope—it is an ideal spot. Part of it is a rock garden and part of it a water garden, and the rest a wood, with ferns and primroses and wildlings generally. There is a College of Horticulture in connection with the gardens and the students graduate from it pretty much as they do from our agricultural colleges. The roses were in perfection when I was there—the profusion of them, the colors, and especially the perfume, were most delightful. A broad walk leading from the front gates for some distance had a wide border, on each side, devoted to them. The ordinary sized bushes were placed in the front and the climb-

ing varieties at the back. The latter were trained each on three rustic poles placed tripod-wise and fastened together at the top, a simple and very pretty way of training them. Farther down in the garden was an arched trellis covered completely with the smaller varieties of roses. A very fine perennial border went all along one side of a large lawn. It was filled with many beautiful things. Behind it, on lower ground, were some beautiful Japanese Iris, and still farther on was a good-sized lily pond with a tiny island in the centre, and with tall shrubs and handsome large leaved plants in the background. One could ask nothing better of fate than to spend one's life in just such a spot.

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