

improved, but the land will be left clear for the crops which are to follow, so that all the expense of weeding is not chargeable on a single crop.

The perennial weeds are the most difficult to get rid of, because of the extra means they have of self-propagation by roots or *stolons*. Perhaps no plant that grows resists the efforts of the destroyer with such tenacity as couch grass. Every root will make a new plant and the rapidity of its growth is such, that if let alone it would soon usurp the place of all other vegetation. If it has been allowed to get the mastery scarcely any means short of making a summer fallow, and working at it continually until every little bit of root is picked out and destroyed will succeed. This can be effected usually while the land is in preparation for turnips, or part of the pest can be taken out and a crop which will completely overshadow the land planted. Indian corn or tobacco will best answer this purpose for, fortunately, couch grass will perish if debarred from enjoying the bright light of the sun.

Thistles will not abound if the land is properly tilled and left clean after the root crop or fallow, but should they appear in the corn crop they should be watched for and pulled, while the weather is moist, out of the grain-crop, or cut off with the scythe on the grass lands before they have gone to seed. All other perennial weeds should be destroyed in the same manner, if they have been allowed to get a head. But be it remembered that in the destruction of weeds, "a stith in time saves nine" and, while in an embryo state, millions can be destroyed at little expense of time or labor which would cost as much to kill as the crop is worth if permitted to grow to maturity, or partly so. To sum up: to keep the land free from weeds the good cultivator will be alert, and systematic in his work, take time by the forelock, and remember that the growth of a crop, whether of corn, roots, or weeds brooks no delay and must be attended to at the right time, otherwise disastrous results will ensue.

Nothing is more trying to the patience than to drudge at the eradication of weeds when the work has been neglected, and with the consciousness that the drudging might have been avoided if the right means had been taken at the right time.

Nothing bespeaks the slovenly, negligent cultivator so plainly and emphatically as a weedy farm or garden, and nothing proclaims the character so clearly, as a thrifty, well ordered, and

neighbourly member of the community in which he lives, as the farm or garden in which weeds are conspicuous by their absence.

GEO. MOORE.

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## ROCKERIES.

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(Continued).

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In our last we gave the descriptions of some of the most suitable plants for the rockery, we now proceed, briefly, to make a few remarks upon its construction.

One of the principle points to be noticed is to give the work an artificial appearance, but to imitate nature as closely as possible. The stones of which the rockery is constructed should not be placed on each other in regular order to look as if they had been built up, but rather as if they had fallen into their places by accident; this is somewhat difficult, and will depend upon the taste and skill of the constructor, but the general idea must be to avoid formality.

The best stones with which to form a rockery are those which come out of the quarry in irregular shapes, and not those which lie flat upon each other horizontally. For, if the latter are used, a rough or rugged aspect cannot be given to the work; unless some of them are placed on end, and then they would be in an unnatural position and would make the rockery look too artificial. In placing the stones, hollows must be left to contain earth for the plants to grow in; these should not be arranged in any order or at regular distances from each other, but as if they occurred by chance.

The whole should be allowed to settle before any plants are put in. In planting, reference must be had to the habit of growth of each plant. Those which are very small should be planted low down, or near the base of the rock work, so that their beauty can be seen, and those of a trailing or hanging habit of growth should be planted near the top. In addition to the plants recommended, some mosses and lichens may be added; in a few years a spontaneous growth will also cover the stones, and then the work will be in its perfection.

The above describes the making of rockeries in imitation of natural formations; but there are some spots in large pleasure grounds where artifi-