

The Secret Garden – Ben Weatherstaff

“an old man with a spade” (39)

“surly old face” (39)

“surly old weather-beaten face”
(42)

“gardener” (42)

“I’m lonely mysel’ except when
[robin redbreast]’s with me”
(45)

“It is a Yorkshire habit to say
what you think with blunt frank-
ness, and old Ben Weatherstaff
was a Yorkshire moor man” (45)



Mary and Ben Weatherstaff have a lot in common: “‘Tha’ an’ me are a good bit alike,’ he said. ‘We was wove out of th’ same cloth. We’re neither of us good lookin’ an’ we’re both of us as sour as we look. We’ve got the same nasty tempers, both of us, I’ll warrant.’” (45)

His “rheumatics has made [him] too stiff in th’ joints.” (108)