

the passage-ways, which always, in mild weather, causes the bees to leave their hives, and many become chilled, on alighting upon buildings, fences, &c., and never return. But more especially is great loss caused, when the ground is covered with snow, and the warm rays of the sun draw forth the bees in large numbers, to become dazzled by the reflection of the sun upon the snow, and fall down and die.—*Rural American.*

CHLORIDE OF LIME.

It is not perhaps so generally known as it deserves to be, that chloride of lime is one of the most valuable articles available for top dressing grass lands. This substance is commonly purchased at the shops, and often at a much greater cost than the cheapness of the materials entering into its composition legitimately sanction. Any farmer may make it. To do this, it is only to slack one barrel of good lime with water, allowing a little more

water than will dry slack it, and reduce it to a thick paste. Then dissolve one bushel of common salt, using no more water for the purpose than will just take up the mineral. This may either be used in slacking the lime, or applied after the water is used in effecting that process, has been evaporated by exposure. Chloride of lime is a perfect deodoriser, and should always be kept on hand for use, when wanted. Made in this way, it will be found to possess all the virtues of the best article from the laboratory of the chemist, and cost less than one-twentieth the price. After being made, it should be kept moist. Grass lands, top-dressed with chloride of lime, take a much earlier start, and retain their greenness much longer than those manured with other articles. It produces, also, a very favorable effect upon cereals—wheat, rye, oats, barley, and buckwheat—and has been used with success on corn, millet, and various pivoting crops.

BREEDERS' DEPARTMENT.



J. VALER S.

FATTENING ANIMALS.

A very common error among farmers, which needs correction, is the opinion that animals may be fattened in a few weeks, and fitted for market by heavy feeding, or as it is termed "pushing." Many farmers do not think of beginning to fatten their hogs or cattle for early winter market until autumn has actually commenced. Their food is then suddenly changed, and they are dosed with large quantities of grain or meal. This sudden change often deranges the system, and it is frequently some time before they recover from it. The attempt to fatten a poor animal in six weeks, reminds one of the puff advertisements to teach "French in six lessons." From observa-

tions and inquiry, we find that the most successful managers adopt a very different course—feed moderately, with great regularity, and for a long continued period. Regularity they find of the utmost importance, and they particularly avoid the course recommended by a correspondent a year or two since, to give a "feeding of meal now and then." The most successful pork raiser that we have met with, commences the fattening of his swine intended for winter market, *early in the preceding spring.* We might almost say he commences the autumn before, for he keeps his young swine in a good rapidly growing condition all through winter. He always begins very moderately, and increases the amount gradually and with great uniformity, taking care never to place before the animal more than it will freely eat. With this treatment, and attending strictly to cleanliness and the comfort of the animal at the same time, his spring pigs at ten months usually exceed three hundred pounds, and sometimes have gone as high as four hundred and fifty pounds, and wintered pigs run as high as five to six hundred; the corn, which is ground and scalded before feeding, nets him one dollar per bushel, when pork sells at five cents per pound.

Our readers are generally aware of the opinion of John Johnston on the subject of