

The advantages of this crop will not be exhausted by the fat stock turned off it, for the good effects of peas on succeeding crops and on grass are invariably most marked. As a grain crop in suitable localities peas usually pay well. They are not a crop, however, which will stand feeding off at any stage and afterwards produce a seed crop. Peas are a crop which no pig-raiser should neglect; and by getting them in as early as possible there will be more time available to devote to other pig crops, such as rape, mangels, pumpkins, &c., which will be due for sowing in the following months.

LIMING AND MANURING.

It is opportune to press the urgency of top-dressing pastures. Probably the most general need in this direction is for applications of lime. Free-working soils in the drier plain areas may fail to give any appreciable response to limings, but on all cold, heavy land there is hardly room to doubt that applications of lime would increase the value of the land many times the cost of the application. The soundest advice that can be given this month to farmers so situated is to get a supply of lime by hook or by crook, and see to its application as soon as possible. All things considered, ground limestone is the best form in which to apply lime, and an application of even 10 cwt. per acre will seldom fail to work wonders. Probably the greatest benefit would be derived from liming by applying from 10 cwt. to 1 ton on grass just before breaking up for rape or turnips. As the plough-furrow is deepened in subsequent cultivation by turning over the rape or turnip break, the lime becomes thoroughly distributed through the soil; and if a further similar dressing is then applied on the surface and harrowed in before sowing grass-seeds there should result a pasture which would gladden the heart of any farmer, whether his mainstay be cows or sheep.

While the importance of lime is stressed, let it not be thought that it is the one thing needful to remedy inferior crops or sickly grass. Phosphates are needed—superphosphates after liming, or, if liming has not been done, basic superphosphate, rock phosphate, Ephos phosphate, or phosphatic guano. None of these, however, will produce their greatest effect if applied to a soil lacking in lime.

With regard to the paddocks to be treated, those that are to be closed up later on for hay should not be neglected. Hay costs much less per ton to produce when it is the product of a heavy crop. Therefore lime and manure now, graze lightly during the