[From the American Agriculturist.]

Top-dressing Meadows in Winter. A thin dressing of clay put upon a meacow, where the soil is sandy, or a sandy loam, or for the most part muck, and not in a very good state of fertility, will sometimes increase the growth of grass so largely, that a meadow hardly worth mowing will yield three tons of excellent hay per scre. Sometimes when grading has scre. Sometimes when grading has been done, or a new fence is built the earth is scattered in depression on the sward near by, and the resulon the sward near by, and the result almost always is a large increase in the growth of the grass. We have frequently observed bunches, and small patches of tall, heavy grass of a luxuriant growth, near stakes and posts, that had recently deen set, a small quantity of the earth having been scattered, when the workman was digging the holes. Taking the hint from these, it is easy to see how teams and laborers may be employed profitably, when there is snow on the ground, or it is too celd to engage in labor that requires warm weather. If a man has a sandy meadow yielding but a small burden of sgrass, it will pay well to haul clay, or almost any kind of earth half a mile to top-dress such ground. When the sleighany kind of earth half a mile to top-dress such ground. When the sleigh-ing is good, a team will haul two tons at one load with ease. If the soil be of a peaty character, two tons of cold stiff clay spread in the win-ter over an area of four square rods, will usually produce a maxim result. Should the clay be plowed, or spaded up in large clods, let them be spread on the snow or ground, and the frost and rain will reduce them to a fine and mellow condition before the grow ing season commences, so that a tle labor with a shovel will cover the entire surface with an excellent top-dressing, the good effect of which will be perceived for several years, in the larger quantity of grass and hay, and in the better quality.

An active man with a good team

will haul, on an a erage, one ton of earth in an hour half a mile, when the trave ing is such that the team may haul two tons per load.—
And if half a ton be spread on each square red, it will require eighty tons to top-dress an acre. The expense of the teams for hauling need not be computed, because they must be kept in winter, whether they work or not, and it will be better work or not, and it w'll be better for them to labor than to remain idle. Then allowing a man one dollar per day, if he hauls only four loads per day, making eight tons, it will cost ten dollars to top-dress one acre. The grass produced by such a dressing over and above what would have grown in a single season, will ordinarily more than pay all this expense. But, in the winter, when farmers have little to do besides their daily chores, they can work a few daily chores, they can work a few hours every day at top-dressing in this manner, and it will cost them even less than we have reckoned, as it will be better for both men and teams to labor moderately, than to remain idle. When there is a prepon-derance of clay in the soil, sand, or sandy loam, or muck may be hauled instead of clay. The frosts and rains will almost surely reducr it fine before the growing season commen-ces, and it will answer the double purpose of a mulch and fertilizer.— When the snow is off the ground on a mild day, the lumps, if there are many, may be broken up and spread by a harrow turned upon its back.

Scratches in Horses.

A correspondent of the last New England Farmer thus refers to "bright varnish" as a cure for cuts, woun's, and especially scratches in

"When I worked at my trade in the city, I had occasion to use differ-ent kinds of paints and oils; among them was what is called 'bright var-nish.' Frequently would I cut myself sometimes so severely that I had been laid up for weeks. I would try all kinds of salve, but the wound would be a long time healing. One day I cut my hand severely, and as I had pothing at hand to you on it I thought. be a long time healing. One day I cut my hand severely, and as I had nothing at hand to yut on it I thought I would try some of the bright varnish; us it is a sticky substance, I thought it would stick the wound together; accordingly I bound up my hand with it and kept on at work; the varnish relieved the pain, I had no soreness in the wound, and in one week it was entirely healed. My son was sawing through a board one day, and carelessly put his hand under the board. He had his fore-finger bone entire sawed off. I put the ends together, put on the varnish and bound it up. The result was that after one week the bandage was removed, and the finger had nearly grown together. My horse once had scratches so badly that it was difficult to get him to move about. I rubbed the parts effected with this varnish for two days, which caused a perfect cure.—The varnish can be bought at the paint haps for six or eight cents per quart.

Fitz John Porter, of unfragrant memory, is through with gold mining in Colorado, and has gone to Europe. Like his friend McClelland, he probably thinks the United States is no longer a home fit for gentlemen-of his sort.

-On Christmas Day, Felix Farrel, quarrelsome person, fatally stabbed Anthony McLaughlin, near Luzenac, in Luzeroe county. The murderer was arrested and committed for trial.

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FOR 1866.

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THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY

FOR 1866.

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Will appear in James y STORIES BY Mrs. L. MARIE CHILD, the first of which, entitled, "Poor Chloe," will be printed in the

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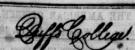
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