

[To Make a Fine Varnish] Handley Chipman

Date: Written sometime in 1776. | 1776/01/01 to 1776/12/31

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Manuscript

Type

Construction

Ingredients

lye of potash

tartar

alum

cochineal

Places

Nova Scotia

Source: Handley Chipman's Notes, Vol. 2

Institution: Nova Scotia Archives | **Source Origin:** Chipman Family Papers | **Reference:** MG Vol. 218 / Microfilm Reel 10,154

Description

Detailed instructions for making a red varnish. No. 241, p. 140.

Transcription

To make a fine Varnish, take clea[r]
Lye of Pot Ash, or tartar, add to it a very small
Quantity of a Soluton of Alum, put the Lye into
a very fine, glass Vessel, take Some Powdered Cochi:
:neal carefully sewed up in a bag of Linen, which st[ir]
about in the Lye, till no colour remains in it, that
which is first Extracted is best, and may be kept in a
Seperate Glass, when the Colour is all Extracted, take
Some very clear Alum water and pour on the Lye, til the
whole is Curdled, it must then be filtred & the varnish purified

Annotations

cochineal

A red dye derived from insects of the same name.

To Make a Fine Varnish recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes: <https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/103>