[A Ferment to Manure an Acre of Land] Benjamin Marston

Date: 1791/04/01

Contributors
Contributor Role
Compiler
Contributor Name
Benjamin Marston

Publication Format
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Type
Agriculture

Ingredients
plaster of Paris
mould

Places
London
Bristol
New Brunswick
Pennsylvania
England

Source: Winslow Papers
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Description

Letter from Benjamin Marston to Edward Winslow. 3 April 1791. Winslow Papers, vol. 7-85. Original correspondence is held by University of New Brunswick Archives & Special Collections. This digital image is provided by agreement that it will not be reproduced or redistributed
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Transcription

London April 3. 1791

My dear Ned

The following information I think may be of
some worth to you in NB -- A farmer from
somewhere about Bristol sometime last year gave
notice to all the farmers in G Brittain & Ireland that
he had discovered a Ferment (as he called it) a few bush
els of wch would most effectually manure an acre of
Land & would produce a most exuberant Crop -- I was
told by a Gentleman who saw them of some Oats the
produce of this new manure of a most extraordina
-ry size -- What this ferment was he did not explain
to the public at that time -- But I have since been
informed It is nothing more than the Lime of the
Plaister of Paris reduced in it's unslaked State to a
perfect powder by either Grinding or pounding & yn
strewed over the Land in the Broad Cast way about
6 bushells to ye Acre -- & I suppose must be then plough
-ed in -- Whether it would be best to mix this powder
with some fine mould before strewing it on the land
I don't know -- Experiment will readily decide that
I had seen before I had this information an awo
from America of the beneficial effects of manuring
wth plaister of Paris pulverized as experienced in some
parts of Pensylvania -- It would produce 2 tons good
English hay paire from the most miserable Land

I think twill be worth making the experiment &

I heartily wish it success -- For it would afford me a very

great satisfaction to be in any way instrumental to the im

provement of NB -- altho I am not so fortunate as to be able

to come among you --

A Ferment to Manure an Acre of Land recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes:
https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/480