

XX. *Specification of the Patent granted to Mr. JOSEPH BARTON, of the Parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, in the City of London, Chemist; for an improved Method of preparing Indigo for the Purpose of dying Wool, Silk, Linen, Cotton, and other Articles, and Goods made and manufactured of the same, and for giving the Blue Shades to all Kinds of Linens, Woollens, Papers, and other Substances, in a more perfect Manner than hitherto discovered.*

Dated March 25, 1797.

TO all to whom these presents shall come, &c. NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I the said Joseph Barton do hereby declare, that my said invention is described in manner following; that is to say, in consequence of the infinite variety in the quality of indigo, it is wholly impossible to state the quantity of the different materials necessary in the processes of the preparation; these must, in a great measure, depend on the quantity of colouring principle

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contained

contained in the indigo acted upon. The indigo being ground as fine as possible, and its quality, as to quantum and colour, ascertained, by its perfect solution in acid or alkaline solvents, a sufficient quantity of tin, iron, zinc, or alum, or all or any of them combined, to give a fixing base to the colouring matter of the indigo, is added; carefully neutralizing any superabundance of solvents used in dissolving the indigo and metals; which would otherwise injure the durability and the beauty of the colour, and render it more difficult of combination with other colours and substances used in dying, and preparing goods for that purpose; for the powerful acids, or alkalies, necessary to dissolve indigo, destroy many, and injure nearly all, dying drugs or materials. In witness whereof, &c.