INDIGO is a drug of a dark blue colour, used in dyeing, and prepared from the leaves and small branches of a low shrub, indigenous in the warmer parts of Asia and Africa, and now cultivated in those of America. The indigo is cut when in flower, the tips of the branches only being taken, and several cuttings made during the season. In bringing in the slips, care is taken not to lose more of the pollen, or farina-fecundans, than necessity compels; this part of the plant being peculiarly valuable. The slips are thrown into a steeping vat, or large tub, filled with water. There it undergoes a fermentation, which is completed in twenty-four hours. The water is then drawn into another tub, called the mortar, and the vat being cleansed, is ready to receive a second supply of slips. The water that has run into the pounding-

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