PROOF AGAINST RUST.

Consul Albert Halstead, of Birmingham, reports that an option on the American rights to a patent process called "sheradizing," which it is asserted makes iron and steel rustproof and has been used successfully in England for a little time, has been sold to a firm in New York. He adds:

"It is claimed for this process that it coats iron and steel with zinc as well as or better than ordinary wet galvanizing, and that the iron and steel thus coated can be brilliantly polished. In the process zinc dust is placed in a cylinder which has been brought to a temperature of 400 degrees to 500 degrees F.; that is, below the melting point of zinc. The articles it is desired to 'sheradize' are put into the cylinder, which is then revolved. The zinc in this process is not actually melted, but forms an alloy through the surface of the articles absorbing the zinc, and then a coating covering the whole visible surface is deposited to any desirable thickness. Articles thus treated are said to have an even and adherent coating, which wears excellently and does not strip, and that by the use of a lime mop are easily polished. It had been found that the use of the wet galvanizing process upon articles on which threads are cut made it necessary afterwards to recut the threads. This, it is claimed, is obviated in the new process, thus avoiding both the additional work of recutting the threads and also making the threads themselves rustproof. Another advantage claimed is that because articles are not heated to a high temperature the temper of the steel is little affected, while its tensile strength and that of iron remains the same. The owners of the process assert that it will obviate the necessity of using brass in the manufacture of many articles that may rust, an important development in view of the high cost of brass. Aluminum and antimony can be substituted, it is said, for zinc, with success, while when copper and its alloys are subjected to this process their surface is so hardened as to even turn the edge of a steel tool."