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TESTS SHOW MODERN STEEL EXCELS
THAT IN FAMOUS BLADES OF DAMASCUS

Investigation of the properties of the steel in ancient weapons, however, shows conclusively that these superior qualities are merely mythical in origin. The methods of heat treatment which were generally kept secret gave rise to superstitions concerning the origin of the blades and likewise to their superior properties. The tests conducted show that not only is the ancient steel incapable of the achievements attributed to it, but the steel of today is superior in quality in many ways. In the tests steels of the same composition as the swords were used, whereas other alloy steels possessing even better properties might have been used.—Iron Trade Review.

It is hard for many people to accept the modern developments in industry, and it is not an uncommon idea among people that present day products are inferior to those produced in earlier times. The question is asked, "Why cannot steel be produced today that is equal to the steel in the swords which knights used to carry, with their superior elasticity and hair splitting qualities?"

Customer—I thought you told me that these red flannels would not shrink?

Clerk—Indeed, sir, and have you been troubled?

Customer—This morning when I got up my wife asked me what I was doing, wearing her red cord beads.—California Engineer.