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CARPET MANUFACTURING IN CANADA.

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In an interview on the carpet industry of Canada, J. P. Murray, of the Toronto Carpet Manufacturing Company, gives his views as follows:—

In some countries a carpet is a luxury, but in Canada the climatic conditions are such that for several months of the year a warm floor covering is necessary, and carpets are found not only in the palatial residences of the wealthy, but also in the homes of mechanics, farmers, and even laborers, for in the domestic economy of both rich and poor carpets play almost as important a part as wood and coal. Canadians, in fact, buy more carpets per capita than the people of any other country in the world. It might be supposed, therefore, that carpet manufacturing would have long ago become one of the most successful industries of the Dominion, especially as it is a recognized fact that the strong-fibred wools of Canada are peculiarly well adapted to the manufacture of carpets, and have, indeed, been pronounced superior to those of Russia, Scotland, Australia, or any other country from which wools are imported for that purpose. However, notwithstanding the fact that large investments have been made in land, buildings, plant and machinery, the carpet industry in Canada is very far from being in a flourishing condition, and the reason is that practically no encouragement on the part of any Canadian Government has during the past fifteen years been given either to it or to those who have struggled to bring it into existence. The products of developed and well-fostered factories of the older manufacturing countries have for years been accorded the most liberal tariff treatment, and, while importations

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