Carpet, n. [It. carpetta. Rymol. uncertain.] A kind of stuff embroidered with figures of various fruits, flowers, &c.; an ornamental covering for floors, stairs, &c.; a wrought cover for tables.

—Level ground covered with grass.

"The carpet ground shall be with leaves overspread." — Dryden.

Carpet knight. A knight who has not seen service in the field—hence, a soldier accustomed to a home life of ease and luxury.

"Some of our city captains and carpet knights will make this good, and prove it." — Burton.

One who is created a knight for other than military capacity and service.

"It is height, duded with unskirted rapiers, and on carpet consideration." — Shak.

To be on the carpet; to be meeked; to be under debate or consideration; to be subject of deliberation; as, that matter is next to be brought on the carpet.

(Manuf.) C. were first brought into use by the inhabitants of Eastern countries. In Egypt, Syria, Turkey, and Persia, the G. is the chief article of furniture to be found in ordinary houses, the peculiar habitude of the people requiring but little more in addition. For many years Europe received all her supplies from the East. The manufacture is said to have been introduced into Europe by the French, in the reign of Henry IV. The manufactures of Rouen and of the Gobelins, established by Colbert in 1682-1694, are still existing, the latter producing unrivalled fabrics. It is formed by machine manufacture. In England the manufacture of C. was not carried to any great extent until the middle of the 19th century. The Turkey C. are made in three pieces, and generally consist of a dark central ground, figured with a small irregular angular pattern in various rich colors, surrounded by a border. A genuine Turkey C. should be free from any admixture of green, which is the sacred color of the followers of Mahomet. In the United States the manufacture of C. is very extensive, and carried on to great perfection, owing chiefly to the perfected loom and other inventions of Mr. Bigelow, of Boston, that have entirely revolutionized this branch of manufacture, where steam-power is applied. The business is carried on in various States—chiefly in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania. The principal kinds of C made in this country and in England are the Brussels, Wilton, Kidderminster, Tapestry, Axminster, Three-ply and Ingrain, Dutch, Velveteen, Printed Felt and Brussels carpet. The Brussels Carpet is a mixture of threads and worsted, but, like the Turkey carpet, the worsted only is shown on the upper surface. The base or cloth is a coarse linen fabric, and between the upper and under threads of the web, several (usually five) worsted threads of different colors are firmly bound in. The pattern is produced by drawing the surface, between each calculation of the cloth base, a portion of the worsted thread of the color required at that spot to produce the pattern; these threads are formed into loops, by being turned over wires, which are afterwards withdrawn, and the loops thus left standing above the base form the figured surface of the carpet. This will be better understood by reference to the diagram, Fig. 520, which is a slightly magnified section of a Brussels carpet, cut across the wires and the threads of the web. The large dots above are the sections of the wire; the smaller dots, those of the web or shoot threads; the wavy lines, the warp; the parallel lines, the five colored worsted threads; and the loops over the large dots are the upright worsted threads forming the surface of the C. The machinery and processes by which this arrangement is produced are rather complex, and require to be seen to be fully understood. The Wilson C. is made like

![Fig. 521. CARPET-MAKING.](image-url)