

FEATHERS AND PLUMES.

By VISCOUNT DILLON, F.S.A.¹

The list of plumes and feathers to which I have to call your attention is to be found in the Audit Miscellanea, in the Public Record Office, and enumerates the objects of this class in the Royal Store, at the time when St. George Howarde took over the office of the Armoury. It will be seen to include plumes and feathers, both for military and civil wear, and besides the richer sort are many which from their numbers must have been for use by the Royal Guards. I shall presently note some of the instances of use of these plumes, &c., and also some of the very many references to the fashion of wearing them as mentioned by the dramatists of the period. But I may here remark that, as will be seen from the richness of some of these ornaments, and from the prices paid for ostrich feathers, it is clear that all the plumes and feathers we see in pictures and engravings were not costly feathers. Of this we have confirmation in a note to Von Leber's excellent description of the Wiener Zeughaus, 1846, where he tells us that according to Maximilian's orders the light cavalry, as we may suppose the "Halb Speisser" to be, was to have feathers made of silk to stick in his head piece. Ostrich feathers, Von Leber remarks, were too fragile and expensive, and the imitation was made of silk or wool wound tightly between twisted wires, like our modern tobacco pipe cleaners. Von Leber further remarks that such woollen helmet plumes are occasionally found in old armouries. Another feature to be remarked is the "Dragon of red feathers," and perhaps also the "Pellicane of white feathers." These would be rather puzzling to recognise had we not the drawings in the armourer's book at Madrid of Charles V.'s time. Among the plumes shown as existing there is the fine double-headed Imperial Eagle, of which a copy is given in Jubinal's work on the Armeria Real.

¹ Read at the Monthly Meeting of the Institute, March 4th, 1896.

It will be seen that feathers of all colours appear in the inventory, and among them "Byrdes of Arabye," which we may take to be the "Birds of Arabia" or rather Birds of Paradise in the Tower Inventory of 1629.

One or two words used may need a note of explanation: *Langettes* are the long tongue-like feathers springing from the bushy plumes; *Troches* are branches or clusters, like the points on the top of a stag's horn.

The long hanging plumes of the sixteenth century appear to have been fixed to a metal button which was introduced into the larger part of a keyhole opening in the crest-ridge of the helmet; the neck of the button then passing into the narrow part of the opening, the weight of the plume would keep it in position. The standing plumes and horse plumes would be fitted into plume pipes, often richly ornamented, and fixed at the side or back of the helmets or morions as seen in pictures.

The earliest distinct representation of a plumed helmet that we have met with is the figure of one of the King's attendants on the occasion of young Henry of Monmouth receiving the accolade at the hands of his cousin Richard II. during the Irish campaign of that King. The representation¹ is in one of the exquisitely fine miniatures of the Harleian MS. 1419, a French metrical account of the deposition of Richard. The MS. was executed very soon after 1,400, and from the loose surcoats and other details of costume, it must be considered a French work. The King and young Henry are both mounted, and one of the attendants has a white plume springing from the apex of his pointed bascinet. Some of the civilian figures in the MS. also have single plumes in their caps, but none of those in armour, nor have the mounted archers² in Plate IX. any plumes.

The next representation in point of date of this helmet plume is the portrait of Robert Chamberlain, esquire to Henry V., and one of the benefactors of St. Alban's Abbey, in the Register Book of which, Cottonian MS. Nero DVII., this portrait occurs with the date 1417³. The plume

¹ Engraved in *Archæologia*, Vol. XX., Pl. 2.

² Planche, in his *History of Costume*, has omitted the bows.

³ Engraved Strutt, *Regal and Ecclesiastical Antiquities*, Pl. LIX., Fairholt, p. 207. See *Archæologia*, Vol. XX.

here springs from a pipe at the apex of the helmet. In Harl. MS. 4431, a French MS. of Christine de Pisan, of the early part of the fifteenth century, *c.* 1420, we have a good example, on fol. 114, of a knight's plume. Hewitt has engraved it in his *Ancient Arms and Armour*, III, p. 389.

The fashion of enriching feathers by the addition of jewels, pearls, &c., attached to the pen was much in vogue in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and as examples we may mention a figure in Rome's *Life of the Earl of Warwick* (Cott. MS., Julius E. IV., executed about 1487), where a figure wears such a feather in his round *salade* or *chapel de fer*. In the *Romance of the Rose*, Harl. MS. 4425, are numerous examples of this fashion, and very large feathers are seen similar to those in the hats of the attendants on the two Sovereigns at the Field of Cloth of Gold¹ as represented in the bas-reliefs at the Hotel Bourghtheroulde at Rouen. In the Hampton Court picture of "The Battle of the Spurs," large plumes of feathers are seen in many of the helmets, but none of the horses wore top-nets. Of course German pictures of woodcuts of the time furnish very many instances of the extreme to which the fashion was carried both in civil and military costume.

Among Henry VIII.'s jewels, in 1530, according to a list in the *Domestic State Papers*, is "an ostrich feather garnished with four small rubies."²

The notices in *Hall's Chronicle* of feathers ornamented with spangles, &c., are very numerous, and one especially may be quoted where, describing the jousts held on the 13th February in 2 Henry VIII., of which there is such a magnificent representation in the illuminated Roll at the Herald's College, Hall tells us that the King's horse had on the front of the chanfron "a goodly plume set full of musers or trimbling spangles of gold." This word *muser* has not been met with elsewhere, but evidently was the special name for what are called *paillettes* in French and *Flitter* in German.

Hall, under the year 1520, says "the feather was black and hached up with gold." This ornamentation of the whole feather was of old date, as we see in John of Gaunt's

¹ See also "Romance of the Roses," Harl. MS. 4425, and *Vraie Noblesse*, Reg. 19, Chap. VIII.

² As late as 1648 Sir Edmund Baron, Bt., bequeaths to his great niece "my feather sett wth diamonds." Bury Wills.

badge of an ostrich feather ermine as shown in *Willement*, p. 27.

As to the prices of feathers, *temp.* Henry VIII., the following are interesting :—

In 1510 ostrich feathers for the bonnets of the King and Lords are charged 6 tops at 12*d.* each.

In 1511 12 ostrich feathers used in the Royal mummary on Twelfth Night are charged 28*/.*

In 1516 36 ostrich feathers at 1*/-* each were bought at "The dagnar on London Bridge" for the Royal revels.

In 1513 when Henry, Earl of Northumberland, went to France to the siege of Turwin he took 60 ostrich feathers, 30 of white and 30 green ("for My Lord's captains and gentlemen"), each of 2 feathers, also 100 white feathers for my Lord's guard.

In 1518 Gerard van Hartell, plumer of the King's feather, received 6, and in the following year £34. 16*s.* 8*d.* was paid to the same for plumes and feathers for the King, and at the King's funeral Edmunge Button, feather maker, appears as receiving 4 yards of black cloth as livery mourning.

Good examples of the large plumes on the helmets and top-nets on the horses' heads will be seen in the Great Seals of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and James I. Top-nets occur on the Seals of Richard III. and succeeding kings till Charles I., whose horse's head comes so close to the border as not to allow of this ornament. But top-nets are also seen in one of Edward VI.'s half-crowns, and some of the crowns and half-crowns of Charles I.

A very good example of the langettes, or long detached feathers, will be found in the figure of St. George engraved on the breastplate of the fine suit of Henry VIII.'s armour, now in the Tower of London, and presented to that King by the Emperor Maximilian in 1514. Also in the votive picture of "St. George and the Dragon" with Henry VII. and his family now at Windsor, and described by the late Sir Geo. Scharf, K.C.B., *Arch.*, Vol. XLIX. In this picture also is a good instance of the top-net.

At the banquet on Shrove Tuesday, 1st Henry VIII., Admiral Sir Edward Howard and Sir Thomas Parre came in dressed "after the fashion of Prusia or Spruce, and wearing on their heads, hats after dauncer's fashion, with feasauntes fethers in them."

Soon after this, when the Ambassadors from the King of Arragon and Castile came to the Court, Henry VIII. appeared armed and in a rich dress of velvet, and with a great plume of feathers on his head-piece "that came down to the arson of his sadell."

Among "stuff wanting in 1553" in a list of stuff remaining unspent at Westminster, are:—

- 4 top-nets of feathers for horses,
- 2 horse tops of red and yellow feathers,
- 1 top for a head-piece of red and yellow feathers.

Among the stuff delivered to the Lady Jane, usurper at the Tower, a cap of black velvet with a white plume, laced with aglets enamelled, with a brooch of gold.

Among the sundry stuff borrowed by Sir Andrew Dudley, knight, for the furniture of his pretended marriage to the Lady Clifford, 7th Edward VI., are 51 ostriche feathers.

In Clarendon's *Difference and Disparity between the Estates and Conditions of George, Duke of Buckingham, and Robert, Earl of Essex*, reference is made to "the glorious feather triumph" of the latter, when he caused "two thousand orange tawny feathers, in despight of Sir Walter Raleigh, to be worn in the tilt-yard, even before her Majesty's own face." Clarendon gives no date for this, nor have I been able to find other mention of this event.

I will now give some instances of reference to feathers and their fashions from the dramatists.

In Elizabeth's time feathers in civil and military head-pieces appear to have been most general.

Lilly, in *Campaspe*, 1591, laments the "gloves worn in caps instead of plumes in graven helmet," but he could hardly have criticised the gallant Earl of Cumberland, whose portrait with his Royal Mistress' glove in his hat still exists at Oxford and is engraved by Lodge.

At the Queen's death there was a charge of £47 for "plumes of feathers for ye bedistead where the corpes was

placed in, for the horses of estait and chariott horses," and in the engraving of the funeral procession in *Vetusta Monumenta* the horses are seen having not only top-nets, but also plumes on the cruppers.

As to the feathers on the bedsteads, many examples of such remain to this day, as for instance on some of those at Hampton Court. In the funeral procession none of the mourners wear feathers in their caps.

The custom till a few years ago of having a board with six or eight large plumes on it, the whole being carried on an attendant's head, probably dates well back into the sixteenth century. It is said that a full set of these feathers as carried in this century was worth £200-£300.¹

It is difficult to say whether feathers preceded or succeeded cable hat bands, or whether they were in vogue together.

In the robes of the Order of the Garter we may trace the growth of the plume, which seems to have kept pace with the increasing height of the cap or hat of later times.

In Peele's *Polyhymnia*, or description of the jousting held on the completion of the 33rd year of Elizabeth's reign, each knight had his lance, staves, horse trapper, and his plume of a distinct colour, in which also his attendants were clad.

In 1569 Bishop Tanner, in a sermon preached at Court, foretells to the ladies the speedy downfall of their "high plummy heads."

In 1604, in Marston's *Malcontent*, we have :—

"What a beast was I, I did not leave my feather at home."

and—

"This play hath beaten all young gallants out of the feathers;
Black friars hath almost spoiled Blackfriars for feathers."

And yet again :—

"No fool but has his feather."

In Friar Bacon's *Prophecy*, 1604, contrasting old fashions with new, we have :—

"Then cloakes were for the raine and feathers but for beddes.

* * * * *

Now cloaks are for the sunne and feathers for the winde."

¹ Lancaster.

In Dekkar's *Honest Whore*, Fustigo says :—

“I must have a great horseman's feather, too.”

In 1605, in *Eastward Ho*, by Ben Jonson, Chapman and Marston, the dulness of town is expressed by “Not a feather waving nor a spur gingling anywhere,” and the constable says, “They say knights are now to be known without feathers like cockerels by their spurs.” Evidently the fashion in spurs was on the increase, and that of feathers temporarily in the shade.

But Rowland in his poems makes many references to the latter.

In *Humour's Looking Glass* he speaks of a knight who “had his hat display a bushie plume,” and of a lady he says :—

“What feathered fowl is this that doth approach,
As if it were an estridge in a coach,
Three yards of feather round about her hat.”

In his *Spy Knaves* a dandy says to his servant :—

“And 'point the feather maker not to faile,
To plume my head with his best estridge tail.”

In describing how someone took the common hangman for a person of importance, he says :—

“His hat was feathered like a lady's fan,
Which made this gallant think him some great man.”

In 1606, when Christian IV. of Denmark came to visit his royal brother-in-law, some of his knights wore “strange feathers of rich and great esteem, which they called Birds of Paradise.” It is evident that though, as the inventory shows, such birds were already known to us here, they were to the northern races objects of wonder.

In 1610 Ben Jonson, in *The Alchemist*, says :—

“Whom not a Puritan in Blackfriars will trust so much as a feather.”

This sentence, like that in Marston's *Malcontent*, already quoted, refers to the fact that in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries the feather makers appear to have lived chiefly in Blackfriars, just as glass workers inhabited Whitefriars, and probably for similar reasons, namely, foreigners pursuing these trades having first settled in these localities. Ben Jonson, in his *Bartholomew Fair*,

1614, and Randolph, in his *Muse's Looking Glass*, 1638, as well as Beaumont and Fletcher in *Monsieur Thomas*, 1639, refer to this locality as the home of these trades. Ben Jonson also notes the fact that most of the feather makers were Puritans, and that renders the theory of their being foreign refugees very probable.

In 1611, in Middleton's *Roaring Girl*, Mrs. Tilt-yard asks:—

“What feather is't you'd have sir?
These are most worn and most in fashion.

* * * *

I can inform you 'tis the general feather.”

To this the dandy replies that he wishes to see a spangled feather, and afterwards he is told that he looks like a nobleman's bed post. These spangled feathers were evidently like those already noticed in Henry VIII.'s time.

In Sir John Davies' epigrams of this period are frequent notices of feather fashions—

“But he doth seriously bethink him whether
Of the gulled people he bee more esteemed,
For his long cloake or for his great blacke feather.

* * * *

Besides this muse of mine and the blacke feather,
Grew both together in estimation;
And, both grown stale, were cast away together.”

In 1615, in Beaumont and Fletcher's *Cupid's Revenge*, to

“This feather is not large enough,”

it is replied,

“Yet faith 'tis such an one as the rest of the young gallants wear.”

Fitzgeffrey, in his *Satires*, 1618, mentions that

“Most younger brothers sell their lands to buy
Gurganian plumes like Icarus to fly;”

and asks why he ought

“To rectifie my fore-top, or assume
For one night's revels a three-storey plume.”

In another place he describes a spruce coxcomb, who uses a looking glass set in a tobacco box or dial “that he may see which way his feather wagg.”

Minsheu, in 1627, writes: “Natural ideots and fools have and still do accustom themselves to wear in their

cappes cocke's feathers, or a hat with a necke and head of a cocke on the top."

In 1629, in Francis Lenton's *Young Gallant's Whirligig*, we have—

"The estridge on his head with beaver rare."

Again, in Rowley's *Match at Midnight*, 1633, Blackfriars is referred to twice—

"She that dwells in Blackfryers, next to the sign of 'The Fool Laughing at a Feather.'"

and—

"With one Mistress Wagg in Blackfriars, next to the sign of 'The Feathers and the Fool.'"

In *Amanda*, 1635, is:—

"As light as thou thyself doth hang thy feather."

Also, in *Love Restored*, 1640:—

"Now there was nothing left for me that I could presently think on but a feather maker of Blackfriars. . . . But they all made as light of me as of my feather, and wondered how I could be a Puritan, being of so vain a vocation."

In the same year, in Wit's *Recreations*, is—

"What, doth my feather flourish with a grace?"

Taylor, the Water Poet, speaks of—

"A beaver band of feather for the head,
Prized at the church's tythe, the poor man's bread."

As might be expected, the allusions to plumes and feathers by Shakespeare are very numerous:—

In *Richard II.* we have the Duke of York saying, "I come to thee from plume-plucked Richard."

In *The Taming of the Shrew* Petruchio's lackey is described as having "an old hat and the humour of 40 fancies" pricked in it for a feather.

In *All's Well that Ends Well* the Clown speaks of "delicate fine hats and courteous feathers."

In *Love's Labour Lost* the Princess asks, "What plume of feathers is he that indites this letter?"

In *Henry V.* allusion is made to the military plume: "There's not a piece of feather in our host: good argument I hope we shall not fly."

Coming nearer to the date of the Inventory, we have, in *Henry VIII.*, the severe censure of the fashion by Sr. Thomas Lovell, "These remnants of fool and feather that they got in France," alluding to the expensive outfits at the Field of Cloth of Gold.

In *Hamlet* we get a hint as to the extent of the actors' wardrobe in those days, where, after declaiming the verse "Why let the stricken deer go weep," &c., the Prince says to Horatio, "Would not this, sir, and a forest of feathers, if the rest of my fortunes turn Turk with me, with two Provincial roses on my razed shoes, get me a fellowship in a cry of players, sir?"

Of the occurrence of feathers in female costume at various periods much might be written. The Duchess of Devonshire's ostrich feather, an ell and three inches long, presented to her by Lord Stormont in 1774, introduced the fashion for these ornaments, and considering the rigour with which feathers are required to be worn at Court by all ladies now-a-days, it is curious to find Walpole, in 1781, in a notice of a decree against high heads, saying that "though the Queen never admitted feathers at Court, not a plume less was worn elsewhere."

It is worth noting that "crane feather doublets" and other articles of dress so qualified, which often occur in mediæval inventories, do not mean doublets, &c., of feathers, but of the delicate grey colour familiar to us in the plumage of the demoiselle crane. Yet there are some instances of actual feathers being used, as in the case of Francis I.'s reception of the English Ambassador at Paris in December, 1518, when the King wore a robe of cloth of silver figured with beautiful flowers, the lining being of Spanish herons' feathers. Of course, in Mexico and in some of the Pacific Ocean islands, cloaks of feathers were worn by persons of high station.

In the East the herons' plumes were specially affected by the Sikhs for their helmets in preference to any other feathers. The chief attendants of Solyman, when besieging Rhodes, are mentioned as wearing single ostrich feathers in their caps.

During the First Empire Napoleon introduced the use of plumes in the Court head-dresses of his new nobility, and after 1815 the Legitimists and Orleanists often referred

to the ladies of the late creation as "les dames à plumes."

The use of the expression, "to show the white feather" as a term for cowardice, is said to have its origin in the fact that no game cock has a white feather. When at Ivry Henry IV.'s white cornette, or white flag, temporarily disappeared, owing to its bearer being wounded, the King, pointing to the white panache in his helmet, made his famous speech, "si la cornette vous manque, voici le signe de ralliement." The white cornette being the peculiar right of the commander in the French army, the King, whose horse also had a white feather on its head, utilized the idea of white as indicating the whereabouts of the supreme power in the battle.

In the English army, from 1800 to 1829, the infantry regiments wore white and red plumes in the chaco with the exception of the 5th Fusiliers, who had a white one, and when in the latter year the general plume was changed to white, the Old and Bold who had won their white plumes in 1778 at St. Lucia, where they took them from the caps of the French Grenadiers, were permitted to change their plume to red and white, as they now wear it.

In 1821-1823 the Household Cavalry wore bearskin caps with white or red feathers according to the regiment, up the side and over the top of the fur.

Audit Miscellanea.

This byll Indented made the xx Maye
the fourth yere of the Reigne of o^r Souraigne Lady Elizabeth
by the Grace of God Queen of England
ffrance and Ireland defendo^r of the faith, &c., witnesseth that S^r
George Howarde knight
M^r of the Queene her Ma^{tie} Armery hath receyved of George
Brydeman Keep^r of Her Highness Pallace
at West^r by vertue of a warrante dated the xviith of Maye the yere
abovesaid These

Plumes of ffethers and other ffethers p^ticularly hereafter ensuyng,

That is to saye :

¹ffust oone greate Plume of white Osterige ffethers for a helmett
richely garnessed with pasamayne and freges of Venice golde
and with greate spangells of golde and smale spangells of copper
having a topnett of Hernes ffethers.

¹ These items occur in Harl. MS. 1419, A.B., a list of Henry VIII.'s effects at his death, 1547.

- Item, two large Plumes for horses with two faire Langcttes the pece of white ffithers likewise garnessed with like spangelles Topnettes and hearons ffethers.¹
- Item, nyne Topnettes for Horses foure purple and yellowe and fyve white and purple richely garnessed and trymed as is afore said the same lacking sundrye of theyre garnisshements.²
- Item, sixe greate Plumes for Helmettes of Ostrenge ffithers, viz. twoo of purple and white, two of red and yellowe and twoo of purple and yellow richely garnished w^t passamayne and frenge of venice golde and greate spangells of golde and small spangells of copper.
- Item, two plumes for Morions thone of purple and white and thother of purple and yellowe garnessed and trymed as aforesaide.
- Item, nyne olde ffethers being small topnetts for horses, viz. thre all redde, two blake, twoo grene, oone bleue and purple and blake and one other like ffether being for a mannes head peace alle redde smally garnished.
- Item, foure faire Plumes to garnishe Hattes rounde aboute viz. oone all white, oone redde and yellowe, oone purple and yellowe and oone purple and white richelye trymed with passamayne and frenge of venice golde the passamayne being garnessed wth pearle and the frenge with spangells of golde.
- Item, seven faire longe doble ffethers for hattes viz. two all white, two purple and white, two purple and yellow, and one red and yellowe, garnished with passamayne and frenge of venice golde evry of them garnessed wth troches of seede pearle furnished wth ple hanging at the toppes and with spangells of golde.
- Item, oone lesse double ffether for a hatte all white garnished wth venice golde.
- Item, twoo lesse ffethers for Hattes all blake thone garnessed with damaske golde alongest the stalke like fryers knottes and collettes w^h countersette stoness and richely garnessed w^t fayre ples and thother garnessed w^t frenge of venice golde trymed w^t seede pearle.
- Item, twentie and foure small ffethers for Hattes viz. sixe white, sixe blake, sixe purple and sixe grene, oone of every of the saide ffethers garnessed with small seede pearle and the rest garnessed and trymed with venice golde.
- Item, twoo fayre ffethers for Cappes thone purple and yellowe and the other red and yellowe garnessed with passamayne and frenge of venice golde and trymed with troches of pearles hanging at the toppe with spangells of golde greate and small.
- Item, oone fayre Hearon's ffether trymed at the staulke w^t venice golde and pearle.
- Item, two Byrdes of Arabye.
- Item, nyne single ffethers purple.

¹ There were two of these in 1547.² There were six of red also in 1547.

- Item, tenne like ffethers redde.
- Item, a boxe wherin is pearle passamayne and frence greate and small spangells of golde to garneshe ffethers.
- Item, oone plume of redde and yellowe ffethers for a Hufkyn garnesshed with passamayne lace of venice golde and sett with greate spangells of silver guilt and small spangells of copper.
- Item, oone rounde white ffether for a Cappe.
- Item, twoo Plumes of ffethers white garnesshed with red Rooses and venice golde and spangells viz. thone being for a horseman thother for a foteman.
- Item, oone Dragon of red ffether.
- Item, oone Plume of white ffether having thre Langettes.
- Item, thre lesser Plumes of white ffethers w^h horse toppes.
- Item, oone like Plume of redde ffethers with a horse toppe.
- Item, oone like Plume of blew ffethers with a horse toppe.
- Item, oone like Plume of yellowe ffethers with a horse toppe.
- Item, twentie and thre single russett ffethers.
- Item, thre hundreth and foure score Toppes for hedde peces for men all of blewe ffethers.
- Item, oone hundreth and nynetene toppes for hedde peces for men all of red ffethers.
- Item, oone hundreth and seventene like toppes for horses of red ffethers.
- Item, thre score and eightene Toppes for hed peces for men all of red and yellowe ffethers.
- Item, sixetye and foure like Toppes for horses all redde and yellowe.
- Item, two olde horse Toppes thone yellowe and thother blewe.
- Item, foure Plumes of red ffethers thre of them having fyve langettes apece and thother having sixe langettes.
- Item, thre Plumes of purple and white ffethers with thre horse toppes.
- Item, oone Plume of blewe and red not holye furnesshed.
- Item, thre olde Plumes of blake ffethers unfurnyshed.
- Item, thre like Plumes viz. two of blak, purple and white ffethers and thother of russet, purple and white.
- Item, oone Plume of blew and white ffethers.
- Item, thre Plumes of purple and yellowe with thre horse toppes.
- Item, oone Plume of grene and white.
- Item, seven Plumes and sixe horse toppes of red and yellowe ffethers thone Plume broken.
- Item, oone Plume of blewe and blake.
- Item, thre Plumes of blewe and sixe toppes for horses.
- Item, oone Plume of white ffethers for a hufkyn garnesshed with passamayne of venice golde and sett wth greate spangells of golde and small spangells of copper.
- tem, oone Plume of grene with a top for a horse.
- Item, a Pellicane of white ffethers.
- Item, nyue Langettes with a horse toppe of white.
- Item, thre Langettes redde.
- Item, two Toppes for hed peces of blewe ffethers.

Item, thre hundreth and foure score Toppes for Horses all of
bleue ffethers.

In witness whereof the said Sr George
Howarde hath to this psent byll Indented
sette his hande the daye and yeare first
above written.

(name has been cut out.)

In 1629 The Tower Inventory includes :

Plumes of ffethers of sondry Cullo^r c. ix, xliiii.

Plumes of ffethers for horsemen, xxxiii.