

SUMMARY: The document below is a list in the Lord Chamberlain's Book recording four yards of red cloth given to 'players' (i.e. the King's Men), including William Shakespeare (1564-1616) of Stratford upon Avon, at the ceremonial entry of King James I into the City of London on 15 March 1604. From the ODNB, available online:

*Even the plague which hit London in April 1603 apparently failed to undermine the prevailing mood, although it killed nearly a quarter of the capital's population, halted the frenzied printing of the new best-seller, Basilikon Doron, led to a postponement of James's state entry into the city, and curtailed attendance at the coronation of the king and queen at Westminster Abbey on 25 July.*

The list begins at the foot of p. 78 and continues at the top of p.79. Page 78 is headed 'Skarlet. Red cloth', and on it the list of players is preceded by the name of a sergeant, and a list of falconers. Page 79 is headed 'Damask, Skarlet. Red cloth', and the list of players is followed by a list of officers, and then the offices and names of the Clerk of the Closet, the Master of the Revels, the Clerk of the Revels, the Controller of the Revels, and the Yeoman of the Revels.

In the National Archives, the entry is catalogued under 'Progress of James I through the City of London', and is dated 15 March 1604.

For a facsimile of the entry, see Schoenbaum, Samuel, *William Shakespeare: A Documentary Life*, (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1975), p. 199.

	William Shakespeare	4 yards
	Augustine Phillips	4 yards
	Lawrence Fletcher	4 yards
	John Heminges	4 yards
Players	Richard Burbage	4 yards
	William Slye	4 yards
	Robert Armin	4 yards
	Henry Condell	4 yards
	Richard Cowley	4 yards