

Hamilton, William, artist. First part of King Henry VI, act 2, scene 5, a room in the tower, Mortimer, jailors & Richard Plantagenet. Isaac Taylor, jr., engraver. London: J. & J. Boydell, 1795. Folger ART File S528k3a no.20 part 1 (size XS)

This print likely illustrates the meeting between Edmund Mortimer and Richard Plantagenet in Act 2, Scene 5, just prior to the former's death. The historical Mortimer, actually named John, was imprisoned by Henry IV because of the strength of his claim to the English throne; he remained in prison through the reins of Henry V and VI. Edmund encourages the ambitions of Richard, who, as Duke of York, will rise against Henry VI in quest for the throne.

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