

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

B.A.(HONS.) PART-II, PAPER-III

TOPIC- EDWARD II

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EXPLANATIONS

Q.7. “ A litter hast thou? Lay me in a hearse.

And to the gates of hell convey me hence;

Let Pluto’s bells ring out my fatal ring out my fatal knell,

And hags howl for my death at Caron’s shore”.

ANS-

These are the lines of King Edward in Act IV Scene VI appearing in Marlowe’s play, Edward II. When Leicester and others took away the King by force, young Spencer and Baldock become full of grief. Young Spencer uttered in agony that they would never see again their

beloved King.

When the kings and his friends were overpowered by Rice up Howell and Leicester etc. in the Abby of Neath, they were badly treated by them. The King was commanded to take his seat in a litter which was to take him to the Killingworth castle.

The king felt much offended at the mention of the word, litter. He said that they should rather lay him in a bier and conveyed him to the gate of hell then to the Killingwoth castle in a litter. Instead of treating him so disgracefully, they should put him to death and let Pluto's bells ring announcing his death. Let the wishes cry over his death at the bank of the rivers the underworld, which Charon the boatman rows across.
