

No Attempt is made to write a complete genealogy of the Radcliffe family or of any of the other families allied to it. In some cases genealogies have already been written. The attempt is rather to record what is new and unpublished and the first generation in America.

Radcliffe

Of Radcliffe Tower, of Rossendale, Of Manchester, Lancashire, and of Wrightstown, Pennsylvania

James Radcliffe of Wrightstown is an example of those Quaker settlers of Bucks County who, like the Kirkbrides and the Yardleys, belonged to the gentility of England: For James came directly from Musbury, his ancestral property in Lancashire, which had been held by the Radcliffes for centuries.

When Henry Bowker married Mary Radcliffe in Manchester Cathedral, he married a daughter of the Lords of Ordsall Hall who for centuries had been buried in the choir.

There is an immense amount of history about these two branches of the same family. The name is famous, not only for the social and political prominence of many who bore it, but also for the celebrated scholars and scientists. It was a prolific family. From the first, with many branches and an equal number of pedigrees which do not always agree with each other. It is possible in this present volume only to give the descent of those Radcliffes which is pertinent to our study.

I. The Radcliffes of Radcliffe Tower

Radcliffe is a parish near the centre of Lancashire in Clitheroe. The history of the lordship goes back to the Conquest, but the patronymic begins when a certain Nicholas de Rougemont, younger son of,

1. Gilbert de Lancaster, living about 1150, inherited the manor of Radcliffe and adopted its name.
2. Nicholas de Radcliffe married a Booth (cf. "Booth, this History) and had a son.
3. William who established the prosperity of his family by marrying Cecilia de Montbegon, heiress of Kirkland.

Jumping two generations, we come to,

6. Richard I, called "the old," of Radcliffe Tower, who died 1302. by his wife, Alice de Prestwich, he had William, his heir, and Robert, whose daughter, Agnes, married Sir John Dalston (cf. "Dalston").
7. William was the father of,
8. Richard, "the Younger," who was living in the reign of Edward III and Died 1346. He was seneschal of Blackburn Forest and forester of Pendleton in Rossendale; held property there and was lord of the manor of Moston in Manchester parish. He had three sons, each an ancestor of a branch of the

family, and a daughter.

- I. William, his heir.
 - II. Robert.
 - III. John, of Ordsall of whom presently
 - IV. Eleanor, who married John Dalston
9. William who continued the line at radcliffe Tower, was the father of,
 10. Richard, third of the name, living in the reign of Henry IV, who married twice, 1st Anne, daughter of John Leycestor, Lord of Tabley, 2nd Sybil, or Isabel, de Clitheroe, heiress of Winmarleigh. His descendants held property in Pendleton, Marsden and other places in Rossendale. He had, besides Thomas, two other sons, William, his heir, and James, whose descendant, a century later, Robert, Earl of Essex, eventually inherited the manor and castle of Radcliffe.
 11. William was the father of,
 12. James, second of the name who rebuilt the Tower. He died 1409, His son,
 13. Richard, was High Sheriff of Lancashire. He died 1442.
 14. James, his son, appears to have been an heir of Emma de Moston, although the Radcliffes already held a manor in the parish. He also held a park in Musbury. He had two sons, John and Richard, of whom presently.
 15. John died 1485. His three sons, Richard, John and Roger, all died without issue, when estates, including Moston reverted to Robert Radcliffe, first Earl of Essex, descendant of James, above. When Oliver Bowker acquired certain properties in Moston, 1547, this Robert, with his kinsman, William of Ordsall, of whom later, released his claim to them.
 16. Richard, who died 1500,
 17. Thomas, who died 1521, and
 18. Thomas, who died 1561. But some younger son, who is not listed in the published pedigrees, must have inherited the estate called Chapel Hill, adjoining Musbury Park, which was freehold property of James Radcliffe, the Quaker. There was probably a Richard, brother of Thomas, who was the grandfather of James, for James called his eldest son, Richard.

II. The Radcliffes of Ordsall

Ordsall is a property in the parish of Manchester. Two illustrations of it are given in the Victorian History of Lancaster, Vol, under "Manchester" The founder of this branch of the Radcliffes was,

9. Sir John, son of Richard, the younger. He held property also in Moston. Sir John distinguished himself at the Battle of Calais, 1346, and died 1354.
10. Richard, and
11. John, continued at Ordsall.
12. Sir Alexander I was a Knight of the Shire for Lancaster; that is, representative in Parliament. He was succeeded, 1548, by
13. William, who died 1568, and was buried in the choir of Manchester Cathedral where his forefathers had also been buried. It was this William who joined with the Earl of Sussex in quit claiming land in Moston to Oliver Bowker, who may have been in some way related to him.

14. Sir John, his son, was, like his grandfather, Knight of the Shire. He died January 19, 1589. By his wife Anne, he had:

- I. Alexander, his heir who married a stepdaughter of Robert Radcliffe, 3rd Earl of Essex, and had four sons: John, Alexander, Humphrey, Charles, and Robert.
- II. William.
- III. John, of Moston.
- IV. Margaret.
- V. Jane.
- VI. Anne.

15. To John, his youngest son, Sir John bequeathed land in Moston. It was he who sold Holingee Manor to Randall Blackshaw 1611.

**James Radcliff Of Chapel Hill
The Immigrant Ancestor of This Line**