

## OBITS OF THE RADCLIFFES OF ORDSALL

---

**I**N the Bodleian Library at Oxford is a printed Book of Hours<sup>1</sup> intended for use in England which is noteworthy in several respects. It came from the office of Francis Regnault at Paris in 1534, and is a beautiful volume fully adorned with pictures, including a portrait of Henry VI, with prayer to him. It has a local interest also, for writing in it shows that it once belonged to Dame Elizabeth Atherton, sister of Sir William Radcliffe of Ordsall; and then "Alexander Radclyffe aus this bock. God mace hym a gud man and sond hym . . ." Other names written in it are Thomas Byrtwyssyll, John Smyth, and Margaret Urmstone. It was therefore, no doubt, a treasured possession of the Radcliffes of Ordsall, and the following deaths of members of the family are recorded on paper leaves at the beginning :

Alexander Radclyff of Ordysall, Knt.; *d.* 5 Feb. 1548 (3 Edw. VI). F.

Dame Alice Radclyff, widow of above; *d.* 13 Mch. 1551 (6 Edw. VI). CB.

Dame Elenore Molyneux, wife of Rychard Molyneux of Sefton, Knt.; *d.* 28 Oct. 1557 (4 and 5 Phil. and Mary). G.

Dame Anne Trayfford, wife of Edmund Trayfford of Trayfford, Knt.; *d.* 17 Nov. 1557 (4 and 5 Phil. and Mary). G.

John Radclyff, clerk, M.A., Vicar of Sabryge in Essex; *d.* 26 Aug. 1560 (2 Eliz.). F.

Anthony Molineux, son of Sir Rychard Molyneux, Knt., of Sefton, and Elenore his wife; died in the University of Lovain

<sup>1</sup> Gough Missals, 177.



30 Aug. 1565 (7 Eliz.) and buried in St. Michael's church there before the altar of St. Anthony.

Alice, daughter of William Radclyff of Ordessall, Knt., married (1) to John Hulton, son and heir of William Hulton of Farnworth; bearing two sons (*s.p.*) and two daughters; (2) to Francis Tonstall of Thorland, bearing two sons (who died in boyhood) and three daughters and dying in childbed of a third son, 3 April 1568 (10 Eliz.).

William Molineux, son and heir of the above Sir Rychard Molyneux, Knt., and Dame Elenore; *d.* at Halsall, 11 June 1568, and buried at Standish church before the high altar.

Alexander Radclyff of Nocton, Lincs., esq., son and heir of Sir William Radclyff of Ordessall; *d.* at Ordesall 25 Sept. 1568 (10 Eliz.).

Wylhelm Radclyff of Ordessall, Knt.; *d.* 11 Oct. 1568 and buried 18 Oct.

Rychard Molineux of Sefton, Knt.; *d.* 3 Jan. 1568 (11 Eliz.).

Alexander Radclyff of Ordessall, gent., younger son of Alexander Radclyff, Knt.; *d.* 24 Feb. 1570 (13 Eliz.).

Katerine Belyngam, daughter of Robert Belyngam, Knt., married (1) Rychard Assheton of Mydleton, esq., and (2) William Radclyff of Ordessall, Knt.; *d.* 30 April 1572 (14 Eliz.).

Dorothy Howghton, daughter of the said Katerine Assheton by Rychard Assheton, who married Alexander Howghton, esq., and *d.* 22 Feb. 1573 (16 Eliz.).

Wylhelm Hyde of Urmeston, esq.; *d.* 31 May 1574 (16 Eliz.).

Dame Elizabeth Atherton, widow of John Atherton of Atherton, Knt.; *d.* 1 May 1576 (18 Eliz.).

Thomas Asshawe of Hyll, esq., in Hethe Charnocke; *d.* 24 Sept. 1578 (20 Eliz.).

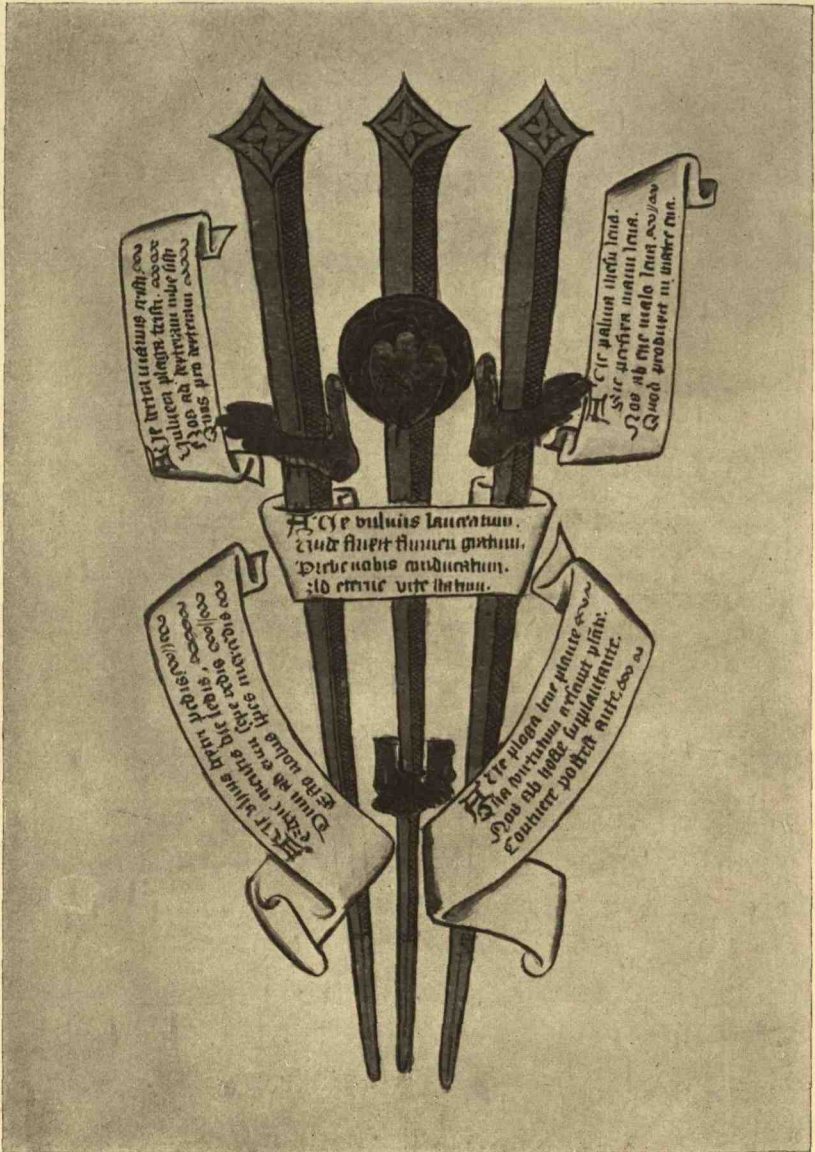
Brigid Radclyff, wife of Richard Radclyffe, esq., at Alkarre; *d.* 22 Jan. 1578 (21 Eliz.).

John Dumbell of Ordessall, gent.; *d.* 25 Jan. 1578 (21 Eliz.).

After each is the petition, "Cujus anime propicietur Deus," and each name is noted in the calendar of the book.

It is another very interesting feature that various badges have been stitched into the volume, apparently about the same time. The largest of them, a badge of the Five Wounds, drawn on parchment (fol. 72*b*), is here reproduced as an example of old Lancashire devotions, by permission of Bodley's Librarian, Mr. F. Madan. The other insertions are :





BADGE OF THE FIVE WOUNDS

Our Lord appearing to a monk and showing the Five Wounds  
(fol. 17*b*);

A small badge of the Five Wounds (116*b*);

A badge with five compartments marked IHS (117*b*);

A small coloured picture of the Crucifixion, on parchment  
(121*b*); also

A curious double badge of two pieces of paper (116*b*).

On the last page is written :

Ihesus est amor meus.

Vulnera quinque Dei sint medicina mei.

Sint medicina mei pia crux et passio Christi.