

## Richard Molyneux



No Picture Available

Born: 5 Oct 1396 Sefton, ENG

Married: Hoan Haydock

Died: 1460 ENG

Parents: Richard Molyneux & Ellen Urswick

Richard Molyneux, who distinguished himself in the French wars of Henry V at Agincourt, in consideration of which services King Henry granted to him and son Richard by patent dated July 26, 1446, the chief forestship of Royal Forest and parks in the Wapentake by West Darby shire, with offices of sergent and steward of that and the Wapentake of Salford, and also constable of Liverpool. He married first, Helen, daughter of Sir William Harrington of Hombie, Lancaster; and married second, Joan, Daughter of Gilbert Haydocke, of Bradley, Lanc., widow of Sir Peter Leigh, Knt., of Lyme.

#### Family Feud

In the third year of Henry VI, anno **1424**, a violent quarrel, arising out of the disputed limits of the family possessions in Liverpool, sprang up between **Thomas Stanley** the younger, afterwards Lord Stanley, and **Sir Richard Molyneux of Sefton**. From the report made to the Chancellor of the Diocese by Ralf of Ratcliffe and James of the Holts, Justices of the Peace, it appears that they had some difficulty in preventing a pitched battle between the retainers of these two powerful families. The Justices reported that having heard that there was "great rumor and congregation of routes" between these two honourable persons, they and Sir Richard Radcliffe, the Sheriff of Lancashire, proceeded to the house of Sir John Stanley, in Liverpool, where they found "Thomas of Stanley with a multitude of people in the town, to the number of 2,000 men or more," waiting to receive **Sir Richard de Molyneux**, who was expected to enter the town immediately for the purpose of attacking the Stanleys. With some difficulty the Sheriff and Justices succeeded in arresting Thomas Stanley. They afterwards arrested Sir Richard Molyneux, whom they found marching from West Derby "with great congregation, route, and multitude, to the number of 1,000 men, or more, arrayed in manner as to go to battle, and coming fast towards Liverpool town."

The Sheriff subsequently received from the Chancellor of the County Palatine the following mandamus from the King: "Henry, King of England and France, Duke of Ireland, to his Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, send the following mandamus: "We command, &c., that Tomas, son of John Stanley, soldier, now residing in my Castle of Cliderow, shall withdraw himself as far as the Castle of Kenilworth; and that Richard Molyneux, soldier residing at the Castle of Lancaster, shall withdraw himself as far as the Castle of Windsor. Given at Westminster the 3rd year of my reign."

The feud between the families was afterwards made up, and the two houses became allied in marriage, and fought side by side on the field of Flodden, and later on in support of the Royal cause in the Civil War. The friendship has subsisted to the present time, a period of more than three centuries. The visitors' list at Lathom, preserved in the "Derby Household Books," contains several entries illustrative of the intimate social relations then subsisting between the two families. Thus in 1587 appear the entries:

"On Wednesday, the 19th of July, my Lord rode to Knowsley, and on Frydaye came againe." "On Monday, the 24th, my Lord rode to **Sir Ryc. Mollynewx's**, and the householde removed from Lathom to Knowsley." In November, 1588: "Monday, My Lady Molyneux at dyner." In March, 1589: "Sunday, Mr. **Mollynewx**, of Derbyshire, came, and on Tuesday he departed." "My Lord and Lady Strandge (Strange) went to **Sir Ryc. Mollynewx's** house." In June the same year: "On Friday Mr. **Mollyneux**, of Hawkcliffe, came." "Sunday, Mr. **Mollyneux** and Mr. **Ric. Mollyneux**, of Conscome, came to dyne." "Thursday, Mr. **John Mollyneux** came to dyne." The mornings at Lathom were frequently devoted to hawking, and an occasional throw with the dice wound up the day.

Information from online research at: Ancestry.com