

The Early History of Hardwick.

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SINCE the publication of the Early History of Hardwick by Whitchurch (in this *Journal*, Vol. XXX, pp. 121-138) three further important documents have come to light in the Powys-Lybbe MSS.

1. A Conveyance (in the nature of a marriage settlement), dated 21 March, 1520, by Richard Lybbe to Thomas Englefield esquire, and ten others, of all his property in the parishes of Tavystok and Tammerton, Co. Devon, to hold 'ad opus et usum mei . . Ricardi Lybbe et Brigette una [*sic*] filiarum Willelmi Justice sen. de Redyng mercatoris.'

2. An Indenture, dated 29 January, 1526, between William Davy of Turweston Co. Buk,¹ Gent., Alys his wyffe, and Alys Preston, Cosen and heire of William Crowchfeld, and Richard Lybbe, of Schynfild, Co. Berk. R.[ichard] L.[ybbe] agrees to purchase the maner of Hardwikke and 'too meases' in Northstoke and Ippesden for £60 4s., namely £20 4s. at the sealing and delivery of these presents, and £40 'after assurance' of the said property. The yerely value of Hardwikke is stated at £5, of the 'too meases' at 49s.

3. An Indenture dated 27 March, 1526, between the same parties. R.[ichard] L.[ybbe] 'for dyvers causes and considerations' (which are not very clearly expressed) agrees to pay £45 over and beside the sum of £60 4s. for Hardwikke and the 'too meases.'

I am indebted to Major Laffan for the following additional reference to an early Lord of Hardwick, 'Radup de Herdewyk,' juror in Langtree Hundred, Assize Roll 700, M.3 (1246-47), possibly a generation earlier than the Ralph of c. 1260-1272.

¹Not 'Berks' as printed on p. 132, Vol. 30.