

you will be surprised at the date. but it is a little scheme which we have had in our heads for some time - partly to break the cold at Hardwick - partly to give my wife an opportunity of passing a little time with one of her sisters, whom she otherwise had seldom an opportunity of seeing - and partly for medical advice. She had I thank God recovered from the agonizing pains to which she was subject for some time after that unfortunate exposure to cold on the Lecture night - & is much more comfortable - but still far from well. We purpose returning, D.V. on the 25th. I running backwards & forwards for duty. -

I do not think I have ever written to thank you, & I do most sincerely for him & myself, for your kindness to Tom. I found afterwards (what I once knew well enough, but had forgotten when I wrote to you) that there was some absurd complication in the Will - made by a friendly public-house-keeper - constituting a Life Interest in the Widow with power to mortgage or sell !!! in some equally lovely puzzle, which has led us to desire a copy to be made which will soon come into my hands. - There is another Will connected with another part of the same family, & which fortunately has nothing to do with Tom or his mother - a Will which I made for his elder brother when dying, who was illegitimate. I was not then aware that such an one could make no Will - though I knew that he could not inherit. He has left his property (which I suspect came to him by Will) between his two legitimate

sisters, with a gift to Tom's little daughter. Is it right to take any legal steps to put this ~~right~~ straight? The title of the sisters to their little cottages might not be doubtful. - Now for another little bit of trouble for my dear friend. With the concurrence of the Vicar of Clifford, I have written our Bishop about our respective rights to fees as affected by Lord Blandford's act for the division of Parishes - but he referred us to Counsel's Opinion, as the case presents some difficulty. Will you kindly tell me, what the expense of such an opinion would be? -

There is botheration enough, I am sure, for once! And I must get about something else - i.e. Jupiter for Pop. Sci. Rev. - I had one or two marvellously sharp nights before leaving home - but the object is getting very far away. Before I send the paper off, I expect I shall have to plague you as to certain points involved. Have you seen the N^o I of the new Series of the Student? They have made it quarterly, - & this first N^o. (Jan^y?) contains a tinted plate of Jupiter by Browning. He is a very clever fellow - but I do not quite take to his tinted plates or indeed to his description - though he has told me something I had no notion of, and intend to make use of. - The figures hitherto published by the Observing Astron. Soc^y are, fortunately for him, considerably worse! You will think me getting very self-sufficient - so I had better close, with our united kindest love & best thanks, & remain,

My dearest Arthur,

your truly affectionate friend

P. T. O.

J. W. Webb.