

satisfied with £5 - in fact the articles, though not va-
lueless in themselves, are so utterly so to me, that every
shilling they bring, is so much clear gain.

Re Wood. I have got a copy of the will - which
I will forward if you like - but all that is of importance
is as follows.

To all whom it may concern. I, Abraham Wood,
Gardener, residing in the parish of Clifford in the Co^t
of Heref. Do will and bequeath unto my wife Sarah
Wood after my death (!) all my real and personal
estate, she to have and to hold the same unto her spec-
ial use & benefit during the term of her natural life.
And it (sic) also my desire that after the death of my
wife Sarah Wood, that my son Thomas Wood his heirs
administrators or assigns shall take possession of the re-
mainder of the estate that my deceased wife may leave,
be. be -

Which last funny clause I rather fancy was meant
by the learned inditer to signify "without impeachment
of waste". but it is what Tom is afraid of - I trust with-
out reason, as I hope the previous portion creates a
life-interest sufficiently to protect his right. Whatever
may be the theory of the Right Hon: the High Court of
Chancery (I hope I am giving the gentleman his proper
title) I feel very sure, if any of it were sold, Tom would
never hear of the money again. There is a Mortgage on it
~~which~~ which was raised by old Abr. himself - but since
his death the widow (who was made Administratrix
with will annexed) paid it off, and raised the same

sum (£100) elsewhere, on a Bond with deposit of bill &
other documents (if there are any) - which Bond Tom was
asked to sign, & did so. The estate, on coming into Tom's
hands, is heavily burdened with charges amounting to £110,
(£50 of which go to the wife of the man whom he dreads
perceiving *круп. ошибок*)

and his idea is that the same precious individual, hav-
ing got possession as tenant, & having a considerable stock
of tin - by some means or other - intends to pay off the
Bond - to get possession of the bill & Deeds, & sing out
to the aforesaid Tom, like an Ancient Briton

"Come if you dare" -

in answer to which the aforesaid Tom

"Cantabit vacuus" -

There now - I hope you will be duly satisfied (may
I venture to hope, gratified?) with the above instruc-
tive and entertaining mélange of Homer, Purcell, Horace,
and the High Court of Chancery - I must not forget
to tell you in conclusion that the said Tom or his repre-
sentatives having been made answerable for "all Funerals
& other debts or expenses that may then be due or owing
- all the remainder of the estate that may then be left
or remaining, the said Thomas Wood his heirs or as-
signs shall hold unto himself or themselves for ever".
And so the document is wound up in right royal sty-
"Given under my hand this 23rd day of Sept. be. be.

Please, Sir, is it worth while to obtain Counsel's opi-
nion, as to whether the said Thomas Wood would not be
actionable for obtaining money under false pretences, if
he persuaded an bod to give him £10 for his chance?