

Hardwick Vicarage, 6 Nov. 1877

~~215~~
175 (forgotten to be posted that day)

My dearest Arthur -

I have a very great favour to ask of you - your opinion as to the following matter.

My worthy old parishioner & Churchwarden, John Kutter had several children - the eldest son, a few weeks ago was very sadly killed by a fall from his horse - never recovering the power of speech - & having made no will.

His father I presume is heir at law.

There are debts owing to, and by, him but of no great amount.

Can his father receive & pay without letters of administration? My impression is that he could do so as among friends - but could not ^{enforce} ~~require~~ payments or give a receipt. Must he take out such letters? -

Then, if his poor sons debts exceed his assets - which is at present uncertain, is his father liable for such excess? -

He had a watch & some rings which have disappeared - but I suppose without some stronger suspicion than the fact that he was