

Editor of Punch 1855-174

12 New Sun

April 12. 1855

My dear Sir,

You may, amid your numerous engagements have very likely forgotten me among your many kindnesses. May I remind you that some time ago you were good enough to answer, as medical referee, to an assurance office, that I was a healthy kind of person? In assuring again, I have ventured to hope that you will not mind taking the same trouble again. Am I trespassing on your goodnature? I hope not.

I, of course, replied to the office, as the truth is, that I have no "medical attendant", for that

my health was uniformly good.  
But I mentioned the names  
of myself & of another friend  
& whom I had ~~occ~~ occasion to  
ask advice, in small matters,  
at distant intervals. Dr. Marsh  
immediately spoke of you as  
a neighbor, & said that the  
office liked to have a medical  
certificate even though it came  
& nothing, & asked me if I  
could call upon you.

In answer to question 11, I  
have, equally frankly, told  
them that I have had some

very light attacks of an  
hereditary gout, but neither  
frequent nor severe, & I might  
have added that I let them  
care themselves.

I will do myself the  
pleasure of looking in upon  
you at any hour that will  
suit you best. I will call  
tomorrow morning at 1/2 past  
10 on the chance of finding  
you at home.

We made a pretty poor thing  
for poor Angus. But I am sorry  
to say that his mind is gone  
My dear Sir, Ever yours faithfully  
Chas. Shirley Berkeley