Dear Fisher,

Stott writes to me to ask me to second him for the Athenaeum Club. I remember him well, my impression being that he was a man of high principles, but on some matters a bit silly. But that may only mean that I differed from him. But time is a blank or ?? 20 years during which I have known nothing about him. I have by mistake given some help to one very disagreeable man to get into that club; and this makes me very
cautious. To unload a man confidently
I hold, that you make yourself
responsible for his being in every
way socially desirable. Could you
yourself do that for Stock?
At present I am inclined to
secure myself as kindly and as
politely as possible. What would
you do in my case? Have you
knowledge of his career all these
years? To go sponsor for him? If
he is a poor man, I much
doubt his wisdom in sinking
£40 (?) and £12 a year for
a mere social benefit — for it
would be no more. In haste,
your advice thankfully received.
I shall have to reply soon.

Yours sincerely,

Leonard Darwin