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G.R.O

(Lady Osler to Mrs. Revere)

7, Norham Gardens, Oxford.

Monday early, June 19th (1905)

Dearest Mother

We had such a nice Sunday beginning with a fat mail at breakfast. Your letter & Ned's - one from Sallie - & many others - We had tea with such a nice family - the niece of our friend Mrs. Malloch of Hamilton - Mrs. Whitelocke. Her husband is a surgeon here and she has lovely children. Such a curious thing - the name Whitelocke is derived from a lock of white hair that has for generations back appeared on the heads of various members of the family. These people have twin girls 4 years old - they both have golden hair & each a streak of pure white down the back. Isn't that interesting? Saturday Willie and I paid a visit to the much talked of Almshouse - at Ewelme - It is a most interesting place - fourteen miles from here 2 miles back from the Thames. In 1437 the Earl and Countess of Suffolk gave three Manors the income from the farms to support the Almshouse & 13 men occupants - and built a chapel adjoining. We have not discovered when the Regius Professor was made Master - but he has been a long time. There are rooms for the Master but they have been altered & look painfully modern. The building is very picturesque & naturally looks very old being nearly 500 years old. The men have two rooms each & if married can have a wife there or a daughter to care for them. The surgeon who looks after them met us & we visited each member - It was most amusing. They were all greatly interested. I am sure Willie will make them all fond of him & be good to them. It is a long drive - & we had luncheon at the Inn & tea in our own sitting room - and got back in time to go out to dine at New College with the Warden and Mrs. Spooner - the name seemed familiar.

Their house is in the college and has been recently done over - They have thrown one room into another and in tearing down walls found old panels and bits of ceiling which they have copied & made the alterations most attractive. The Warden is a quaint old person and the wife attractive. We met several attractive people - among them Lord & Lady Eustace Cecil the brother of Lord Salisbury - he talked a long time to me and was most entertaining. He has been in America and devoted to Boston. I asked two Rhodes students for supper Sunday evening - one from Louisiana & Mr. Robins from Philadelphia - We have early dinner on Sunday - and supper at 8 or after evening service. There are services in all the College Chapels and most impressive with the sun coming through the old windows - Goodness - if Revere does not grow up a man of tender refined feeling it will not be from lack of surroundings from nine years of age. Only Louisiana man came, a Mr. Read. He was very nice and seemed pleased at being asked. All the students we have met are delighted with their surroundings. The interest in the sports is so keen that we hear nothing of the work.

#### Tuesday just before luncheon

My birthday breakfast table had lovely flowers - Your cable & a fine photo of Mrs. Osler - which arrived at the right moment. Revere's tutor is having examinations so he has three holidays - and with his dad spent yesterday on the river with no luck. I am afraid he is doomed to disappointment. I have not told you perhaps that the garden here is really only long beds in front but full of lovely things - Each day seems to bring something new into bloom - There are two good rose beds and a wee greenhouse - no vegetables -

We went to a lovely dinner last evening given us by Prof. Thomson -

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14 - & tonight another given us by the Vice Chancellor of the University - I wish I could begin to tell you all I want to but I never can - People are very cordial I must say I like the women who are about your age - They do look so comfortable and have such rosy cheeks I know I shall grow to look like that. When this reaches you we will be in London for a dinner given us by Mr. Parkin the Rhodes Secretary - and Miss Phipps wedding on the 28th. Rachel & Amy come this afternoon. Marjorie stays a few days & then goes north for visits - I take her to At Homes and garden parties - and we giggle in between. Yesterday some man asked her if she was Miss Gross. Love to the chicks & boys -

Affly

Grace.