19

Papers, 1906-1908

Perkins Institution
and Massachusetts School
for the Blind.

South Boston, January 24th 1906.

My dear Mrs. Rogers,

Please accept my earnest thanks for the annual subscription of $3.00 (three dollars), which you have been so very kind as to send to me for the kindergarten for the blind, and believe me, with warmest regards,

Very sincerely yours,
M. Anagnos.

Mrs. William B. Rogers.
No. 117 Marlborough street,
Boston,
Mass.

OLFERT FISCHER.

June 21 - 1906
Vesterboldgade 115
Copenhagen K
Denmark

Dear Mrs. Rogers

I have now as you see arrived here in Denmark and am onboard my brother's ship, the ironclad "Olfert Fischer".

I often think of you and in my thoughts I find you at your beautiful home in Newport, where I have spent such pleasant days in your company.

I had a good voyage across the Atlantic and arrived in Queenstown on the 1st of June. I telegraphed from there to Paris where I thought my wife was, and asked her to meet me in Neuhaus on the 3rd, but when I came to Liverpool I heard from her, that she had not been able to leave Denmark, as our little girl, Annette,

was not quite well. It was nothing serious however, and she soon recovered, but my wife's voyage was given up.
So I had to stay in England alone, and spent the greater part of my time at my old friends, Bullers, at Battle, where they have a house in the most beautiful part of Sussex.
I meant to spend a week at my cousin, Mrs Sclater, who lives near Brighton but unfortunately she had the great sorrow to loose her eldest boy just a few days before I landed. I made a short visit there and went to see other old friends both in the country and in London. In Portsmouth a friend of mine took me a very wild and reckless drive in his automobile, I intimated that he need not exert himself for my sake, especially in the crowded streets, but his wife who was with us said that everybody in Portsmouth knew his machine so well,

that they always got out of the way when they saw him come - besides, she had been thrown out several times, but had never hurt herself and she added with some pride: "there is an art in falling from an automobile". While in his house for half an hour two insurance agents called and settled different claims for damages due to collisions. So you see that America is not the only place where reckless automobiling is done, although of course there is small comfort in the fact; and I think myself that such people ought to be locked up till they promise to drive more cautiously.
In London I was so lucky to meet my old friend, Tower, who was English Minister in Munich and was now spending a month in London on his way to his new post as minister to Mexico; we had not met for 11 years.
On the 14th I went to Denmark, where I arrived on the 16th. My wife came to meet me in Korsör, on the way. She and the

children were quite well, Annette a little pale and weak after her illness. They absolutely refused to speak English, but could understand all I said to them in English. They were both very glad to see me, especially Annette, who later in the day came into my room when I was writing a letter, and asked permission to rest on my sofa, because then she could look at me. She was very touching, and had a smile for me every time I looked at her. The next morning my wife and I went to a place called Kallendborg, a couple of hours from Copenhagen, where my brother's ship was lying, and with a party of friends went aboard and spent the day. The ward-room officers gave a dinner especially in my honor and the ~~music~~ band played several American pieces. The crew gave a splendid performance, representing a gypsy-camp on the quarter deck and afterwards in the evening four of the officers gave a concert

in the ward room: a violin, a piano, one mandolin and a mandola. It is a curious chance, that four very musical officers have come together in the same ship. In the evening my wife and the rest of the party among whom my sister-in-law and my wife's brother from Ceylon, went back to Copenhagen and I have stayed onboard since then.

In each programme of the music is always one American piece. My brother says that it is done in order that I shall not feel the change from America to Denmark too much, too abruptly.

One of my best friends, a Commander Saxild, a classmate from the Academy, is executive officer here and the doctor is an old friend of mine, so of course I have a very good time. My wife has gone to

the seaside near Helsinore, where I will join her at the end of the month; but I am going to meet her several times in the meanwhile at different parties and dinners.

My brother has the rare gift of always being in high spirits and has moreover the faculty of communicating it to all his surroundings. The consequence is that Olfert Fisher is a very happy ship, when everything goes pleasantly, and everything goes well, for my brother is moreover the most efficient and able naval officer and captain of a ship that I have ever seen. In order to cheer his men he always lets the band play a little every morning besides the regular Evening performance during our dinner, but no time is wasted onboard this ship and both drill, manoeuvres, target practise etc. goes in a way that would satisfy the most critical inspection. The ship is our latest armorclad, a small battleship, so it is of great interest to me, as I have no chance in America to go out with the ships, and it is very necessary to see actual service in order to design warships.

My little boy, Ole, was onboard the Olfert Fisher the other day and saw the big guns which of course interested him very much; he went down in the wardroom and told the officers, that he had seen a gun which was so big, that it would hold 6 Oles and 6 Annettes – that was his way of measuring gun caliber.

On the 1st of July the Admiral is going to hoist his flag onboard this ship, which is going into Squadron with the other vessels of our navy, and then there is not room for me as a guest; this is the reason I have to take this cruise at once, even before I ~~see~~ live with my family.

With kindest regards to Miss Porter

and my best wishes for a pleasant summer, believe me respectfully

Yours sincerely

W. Horgaard

294 Beacon Street,

Nov. 5th, 1906.

My dear Mrs. Rogers:-

The volume of James Savage's letters, which you were kind enough to send me several weeks ago, has only just come to my hands. It was delivered at the Church, and I did not find it until Saturday, when I was looking over parcels and papers.

I am very glad to have the book and I deeply appreciate your kindness in sending it. I am sure it will be interesting. I have just opened it, for instance, and find a reference to Totness, which is one of the places we visited this summer, on the river Dart.

I hope your summer has been a pleasant one, and that you soon will be coming back to us in Boston.

With renewed thanks, and cordial greetings, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Paul Revere Frothingham

7 Dec. '06

17 QUINCY ST
CAMBRIDGE.

Dear Mrs Rogers:

I have been much interested in looking over the collection of Mr James Savage's letters which you have printed privately. The early ones have a maturity which I could wish that more of our young men exhibited now-a-days. The letters written when he was about seventy and was working so hard on his Gov. Winthrop and his Genealogical Dictionary had a special interest for me. The

variety of wisdom in the letter of 23 Novr. 1852 struck me very much.

The fund of $40,000. which came to Harvard College from Mr. Savage in 1873 (it now stands at $42,000.) has been steadily doing good for a generation. It maintains a scholarship of $300., and the balance of the income is divided 3/4 to the Library and 1/4 to the Observatory. These are all permanent objects at a university. The Letters you have printed will present to the inquirer of one hundred or five hundred years hence, asking what kind of a man James Savage was, a vivid picture of your father's personality and of his times.

I am, with great regard,

Sincerely yours

Charles W. Eliot

Mrs William B. Rogers

Milton. Dec. 24. 1906.

Dear Mrs. Rogers —

I am very much pleased that you should have sent me your little book. A good deal of it runs back beyond my recollection, but there is much that recalls Boston as I first knew it, fifty years ago, bringing in

names that I used to hear, and though some were mere names to me, and still are, a good many of the people mentioned I knew.

I seldom get to town but when I do, some day I shall again try and find you

Yours most sincerely,

Wm R. Ware

Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Boston, Mass.

Office of the
Secretary.

June 5, 1907.

Dear Mrs. Rogers,

I enclose the bills for the restoration and framing of the portraits in so far as the work has been completed.

I am having the others attended to but one of them is in such poor condition that it may not be worth while to restore it. I will however write to you again when everything is finished.

I trust that you are well and have now got comfortably settled in Newport. The weather so far certainly leaves much to be desired.

Very sincerely yours,

Dana P. Bartlett.

Dana Bartlett
French Portraits

[11/12/1907]

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MENS MANUS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

My dear Mrs. Rogers:

I was very much pleased to receive from you the copy of the letter of President Alderman announcing the very pleasant and appropriate recognition of the services of Mr. Rogers to the University of Virginia. I presented his letter yesterday to the Executive Committee, and I shall write to Dr. Alderman expressing our interest and appreciation of the action taken by the University. I will see that an announcement of the establishment of the William Barton Rogers Chair of Economic Geology is made in the Technology Review and in the Boston Transcript.

I was very glad to receive your criticism of the news items from the Institute in the newspapers. I am sure it is perfectly just, and your bringing it to my attention will cause me to make an additional effort to remedy the difficulty. I have already arranged that all the larger matters pertaining to our departments and to our development are to be written up in the form of special articles by Professor Seaver, of our English Department. I am sure that this will be done in a dignified and satisfactory way. It is far more difficult to control the current news items, for these are in the hands of student reporters at the Institute, who are also editors of "The Tech;" and it happens this year that the Editor-in-Chief and one or two of the

others are not such men as we would desire to have connected with it. This arrangement was, however, made at the opening of the term, but is only now just beginning to make its influence felt: each department has been requested to appoint one of the younger members of its staff to the duty of sending in to the Secretary of the Institute, once or twice a month, such department news as seems to be worthy of publication. The material published from these sources will, of course, be entirely reliable.

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur A. Noyes

November 12, 1907.

Mrs. W. B. Rogers,
Gibbs Ave.,
Newport, R. I.

Dear Mrs Rogers

— And no comfort in a Thanksgiving unless I sat at your welcome Table — an event, having since some years almost the importance of History — Yet this grave fact casts no shade on one of the loveliest pleasures of my life. Thank you heartily —

Gratefully yours
J. M. Bartlett

3 Revere St
Jamaica Plain. 13 Nov. 1908

1908
J. H. Bartlett

Boston Young Men's Christian Union
Incorporated 1852
48 Boylston Street

William H. Baldwin
President Emeritus

Frank L. Locke, President

Boston, January 9 1908.

My dear Mrs. Rogers,

Your note of yesterday with enclosed check is indeed welcome. There are bills still unpaid and for the first time in my recollection we are facing a slight deficit in the Festival Fund. I thank you for your cordial note and assure you of a full appreciation of the continuation of your interest in The Union.

Very sincerely,

Frank L. Locke.

University, Virginia.
Oct. 7, 1908.

My dear Mrs. Rogers:

After an active day spent in my laboratory machine shop – I am probably the highest priced mechanic in Charlottesville! – I was in some doubt whether to make a call or go back to the shop and finish what I was making; but my rooms with the open fire proved too strong a counter attraction for either course of virtuous action. The result is that I am writing you the letter which I have been intending to write

for many, many weeks.

It was a source of deep regret that I did not get to Boston last spring so that I could see and tell you in person something about the old University; but my mother's illness and death in February took me away from my work quite frequently and I had to be here when the heavy work of the spring term began. I was in Boston for a few days during the summer and found that I still felt very much at home.

We have begun another year here and have every reason to be encouraged with the outlook. The actual number of students has fallen off slightly; but that is a healthy sign, for it is due to increased entrance requirements. The medical department began last year by requiring one year of college physics, chemistry and biology; this year the college increased its requirements, as did also the department of engineering, and they are about as high as the average Virginia high school can meet. Consequently what we have lost in numbers we have gained in the quality of our

student. The men are here for work and there can be no doubt that the student body is working this year as they have never worked before. As I see it, this is the thing above all others to accomplish here. In the past men have been admitted utterly unprepared for college or university work; they were soon swamped by the stiff courses; and the gambling and dissipation, which have given the University a bad name, were the result. The only way to change all that is to require proper preparation, for if the men <u>can</u> do the

[10/7/1908]

work a large proportion of them will do it. My present class is without exception the best class I have ever had – and I do not except from that statement even some that I have had at the M. I. T.

Last year we adopted very stringent regulations about failing in the first and second years of the medical school, with the result that the poor material has gone elsewhere and the teaching problem this year is not only simple but is no problem at all. This is leaving ample time for research work and the next step

will be to develop this. We have already made a good beginning.

I was so pleased to find such an atmosphere of quiet hopefulness among ~~the~~ Institute people whom I saw in Boston. In place of the constant fault-finding on the part of the chief and the uncertainty as to what would happen next, the departments are simply going on with their work for which they are well equipped both in men and equipment, and the natural development was again in progress, as it was in the days of Genl. Walker. Whether Dr. Noyes becomes the permanent president or not, let us hope that the lesson has been learned that the Institute must still be the Institute, if it is to succeed.

With kindest regards, my dear Mrs. Rogers, believe me

Sincerely yours

Theodore Roosevelt

Letters of
1908.
Autographs of
Profs of Technology.

The Hermitage Willow St
Boston Mass Oct 29 1908

Mrs Wm B. Rogers
117 Marlborough St
Boston Mass

My dear Mrs Rogers:

As Secretary of the Boston Authors Club it becomes my very pleasant task to write you of your very recent election to membership in the Club. We who have belonged to it for some time find much pleasure and profit in the association and I trust that you will have the same experience.

Kindly inform me of your acceptance and I will then notify the Treasurer Mr. C. T. M. Clark, 15 Beacon St. Boston who will then communicate with you regarding dues etc. I am sending you at this time under separate cover the club list and constitution issued last spring. The club bibliography is in charge of the Treasurer from whom copies may be obtained at twenty-five cents each.

I beg to remain

Yours sincerely
Oscar Fay Adams
Secretary B. A. C.

Oscar Jay Adams
1908

November 30. 1908.

My dear Mrs Rogers

I am asking Dr Lindgren to come and lunch with you on Thursday at 1. P. M. I will write again if that time is available.

You are very kind and good to look out for the visitor from afar when he comes here.

It always delights my heart

to come to your house. It brings up a most charming train of memories running back to the time when our revered founder was with us and when he taught us so beautifully the principles of Science.

Affectionately yrs

Robert H. Richards

THE BRUNSWICK
COPLEY SQUARE BOSTON
HERBERT H. BARNES

P. O. ADDRESS, { THE BRUNSWICK, BACK BAY, BOSTON.

Dec 6 1908.

Mrs. Emma Rogers,
117 Marlborough Street
Boston

Dear Mrs. Rogers:

I accept with much pleasure your kind invitation for Tuesday afternoon and shall be very glad to have the opportunity of meeting Captain Hovgaard.

Very sincerely yours,
Waldemar Lindgren.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
FAYERWEATHER HALL

NEW YORK CITY 10th Dec. 1905

Dear Mrs. Rogers,

Your volumes have just come in & I must write at once to say that I am delighted to accept them & shall hold them as a treasure. I had often heard people speak of your husband with enthusiasm, but it was not until, a few weeks ago, I came across your volumes in our library here & read them with avidity, that I learned to know him personally & realised his breadth & charm. The knowledge that I have thus acquired makes me more than ever proud to preside over the Institute, the foundations of which he laid so solidly & well. I shall be in Boston on Tuesday next, & shall ask Mr. Humphreys to escort me to your home, in the hope that I may thus have an opportunity of thanking you in person for your most welcome gift.

Yours sincerely
Richard C. Maclaurin

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BOSTON, MASS.

December 10, 1908.

Mrs. William Barton Rogers,

117 Marlboro Street,

Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Rogers:

Professor Warren has just informed me of your renewed kindness to our Department of Geology at the Institute in making the department a present of two petrographical microscopes, and I hasten to write you to express our gratitude. These instruments will greatly increase the efficiency of our teaching, especially for the students of Mining Engineering and the graduate students. You may be pleased to learn that our work in geology is attracting graduates of other institutions and we have now three men who are candidates for the degree of Doctor of Philospphy.

Very faithfully yours,

T. A. Juggar Jr.