Date ?

Lawton's Valley has not been closed, so far as I know, but the fine shrubbery and small trees disappeared a long time ago, and in a short time, a trolley road will pass in front of the entrance. A trolley road now runs from Newport to Fall River, crossing the Stone Bridge. Oakland is now in the possession of Mr. Alfred Vanderbilt. The old garden is now a beautiful park, most of the trees being left, and, at last accounts, part of the land between the house and the Church is to be converted into a polo field.

There is one matter about which I want particularly to consult you. I have a large bundle of letters which George wrote me when I was a student in Germany and Paris. These letters must contain a pretty detailed history of our family during the whole time of my absence. Would you like to have them? If not, do you know to what member of our family they would be acceptable? Perhaps Laura would like to have them, but I have not mentioned them to her. I do not know what became of the letters which I wrote to Mother and George during my absence in Europe. I suppose that they were not kept. William Channing, however, kept all my early letters to him, and I find in them a pretty detailed account of what I saw and did in Berlin. In particular, there is an account in one of them of a trip which I took with my old chum, Baier, and Whitney to the Island of Rügen. Baier had near relatives there and I think that, of all my European trips or tours, this was the one which gave me most pleasure. Baier's uncle had a fine farm, and it was very interesting to me to see that almost everything which was consumed in the family or by the servants and laboring men was grown upon the farm itself. Even the linseed oil used for the lamps and the whiskey distribut-