

- 6 A particle  $P$  of mass  $m$  is attached to one end of a light inextensible rod of length  $3a$ . An identical particle  $Q$  is attached to the other end of the rod. The rod is smoothly pivoted at a point  $O$  on the rod, where  $OQ = x$ . The system, of rod and particles, rotates about  $O$  in a vertical plane.

At an instant when the rod is vertical, with  $P$  above  $Q$ , the particle  $P$  is moving horizontally with speed  $u$ . When the rod has turned through an angle of  $60^\circ$  from the vertical, the speed of  $P$  is  $2\sqrt{ag}$ , and the tensions in the two parts of the rod,  $OP$  and  $OQ$ , have equal magnitudes.

- (a) Show that the speed of  $Q$  when the rod has turned through an angle of  $60^\circ$  from the vertical is  $\frac{2x}{3a-x}\sqrt{ag}$ . [2]

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

- (b) Find  $x$  in terms of  $a$ . [5]

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

[4]

[illegible]