To discover or discover again :

Come back on a mysterious chess game which is the first page of the story <u>Through the looking glass and what Alice found there</u> continuation of <u>Alice's adventures in Wonderland</u> by the english author Lewis CARROLL: a story in the story which is finally probably a request for marriage to Alice LIDDELL, the true Alice...

Christophe LEROY, enthusiast (and bewitched !), invites us to the deciphering of the mysterious chess game of the book of English author Charles Lutwidge DODGSON, alias Lewis CARROLL: *Through the looking glass and what Alice found there* (Continuation of Alice in Wonderland) published in 1871.

« Alice and the chess master » - In French, 176 pages - Collection HURDLE aux éditions URDLA, centre international estampe et livre (http://www.urdla.com).

In this French book we can see two winks from the URDLA and the chessplayers of Lyon at:

– Marcel DUCHAMP http://www.echecs-histoire-litterature.com/docs/duchamp.doc: red and white diagrams of the chessboard are similar to those of his book *Opposition et cases conjuguées sont réconciliées* par Marcel DUCHAMP et V. HALBERSTADT(1932).

– Lewis CARROLL and Henri RINCK (http://www.echecs-histoire-litterature.com/docs/rinck.doc), endgames specialist from Lyon, recognized throughout the world by his peers, via the use wherever applicable of the Christ symbol † (check) of XIXth century.

In fact Henri RINCK was one of the last to use it in his books, including the last one : 1414 endgames (1950).

« *Reader, do you dare to penetrate once more into the cave of the big magician? If you lack courage, stop there, close these pages, do not read it more!* »

Lewis CARROLL (The Walking-Stick of the Destiny)

More information on : http://www.echecs-histoire-litterature.com/index_english.html

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… About Charles Lutwidge DOGSON, Alias Lewis CARROLL…

Son of deacon Charles DODGSON and his wife Frances Jane LUTWIDGE, english author and deacon Charles Lutwidge DODGSON (1832-1898), *alias* Lewis CARROLL, was mathematics teacher in Oxford (Christ Church College) at XIXème century.

We can specify :
– his mathematical genius,
– his love of figures of which a preponderance of the number 42, that we can find in all his work.
– his mastery of symbolic logic,
– his artistical sense very developed, both in theatre and drawing,
– his photographic works which, for some photos, are some of the most successful of the XIXth century.

He has written more than 98,000 letters during his life : in particular, his letters to his "child friends" while collaborating in literary and mathematics reviews.

We can underline that he was the inventor of several objects ; not forgetting his excellent physical condition: each week, on the same day, he did approximately 20 miles of walking!

« Here is a Man ! », like Napoléon BONAPARTE could have said, if he had known him.

During a boat walk, July 4th 1862, the author was captivated by the personality of Alice LIDDELL, one of the girls of the senior class of Christ Church College. She inspired in him the imaginary world of Alice, the success of which at this time was almost like that of the Bible! The 2nd part of Alice "Through the looking glass and what Alice found there" was published in 1871 when Alice was 19.

Chess impassioned, Lewis CARROLL wrote this in his private diaries. He explains that he noted down his games with his brothers, sisters and aunts, and even explains an excursion to London to see a chess match (August 1866).

It must be the match between the two best players at this time: ANDERSSEN and STEINITZ. They played in 3 London clubs (Westminster, the London Chess Club and the Saint Georges's), a match which ended in victory to Steinitz by 8 to 6. STEINITZ became the first world chess champion in 1886.

Finally we have learnt that in his library there was the following books:
 - The Art of Chess-Play: A new treatise on the Game of Chess (George Walker - 1846.)
- The Chess-Player's Companion: Comprising a new treatise on Odds, and a collection of games (Howard Staunton - 1849)
- The chess tournament, a collection of the games played at this celebrated assemblage (namely at the St. George's Club to mark the Great Exhibition - Howard Staunton - 1852)

The number 42:
The number 42 is present very often in most of his work. It was Lewis CARROLL's favourite number (with its divisors 1, 3, 6, 7, 14 et 21).
He met Alice at 24, 24 being the mirror of 42. (detail without importance but not for a carroll-fan).
In 1868, a little before beginning his second story « Through the looking glass », he moved to one of the four corners of Christ Church in a flat number 6 where people could only access through the stairs number 7 (certainly a deliberate moving!).
Ages of Queens in Alice is 100 years, 5 months and 1 day, which is 37044 days (with 24 leap years *). There are 2 Queens, so 37044 x 2 = 74 088. 74088 = 42 x 42 x 42...
We could write pages and pages of examples about this number 42.

Lewis CARROLL in 1862
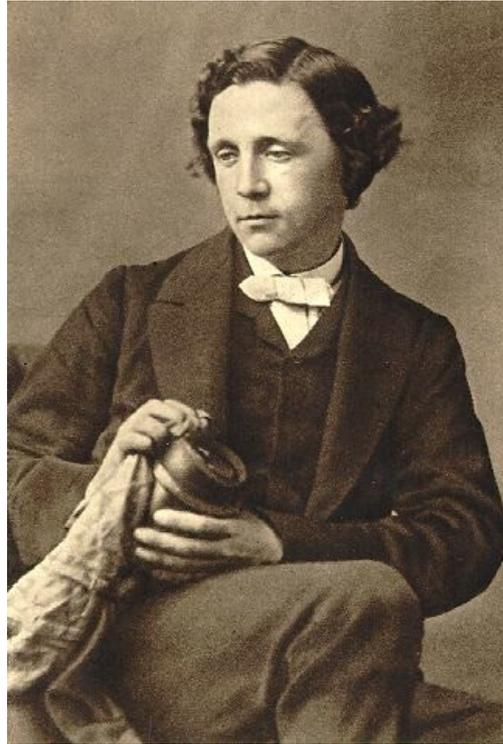
His meeting with Alice LIDDELL:

The life of Lewis CARROLL will really change thanks to his meeting with Alice Pleasance LIDDELL.

She is born in Westminster the 4th of May 1852 and dead the 16th of November 1934 in the Kent. She is one of the seven children of Henry George and Lorina Hannah LIDDELL.

The Dean LIDDELL is named at the direction of Christ Church College the 7th of June 1855. He will lead the College with a iron-hand. He did a greek dictionnary wich is still used nowadays.

« I mark this day with a white stone. »

CARROLL used several times this expression in his diaries, from the latin poet Catulle, to indicate the days with happy emotions. The 25th of April 1856 is one of these days: with a borrowed camera he goes to Christ Church to take photos of the cathedral and then the garden. The 3 girls of the Dean see him. Alice is 4 and Lewis 24. Good relations with the family thus begin and for several years...

After that and almost for each meeting with Alice, he will write in his diaries: « I mark this day with a white stone ».

Alice LIDDELL as a child.

The story <u>Alice's adventures in Wonderland</u>:

Very near the Christ Church College was the Isis, branch of the River Thames. Unforgettable sails took place on it. Alice LIDDELL was in the company of her sisters, her parents, her housekeeper (Ms PRICKETT) or Lewis CARROLL.

Thus the 4th of July 1862, « during a golden afternoon », Lewis CARROLL, with his friend DUCKWORTH, took the three LIDDELL sisters on a small boat.

Sail which will become mythical for Carrollian because it's here that will be born the 2 stories of Alice, improvised in one time by Lewis, and which will be very appreciated by the girls.
Alice will insist for CARROLL to write it. He will begin the following day, during his itinery in train to London.

This strong attachment for the small Alice LIDDELL, true inventive outlet, will permit him to write the best-seller <u>Alice's adventures in Wonderland</u>.

In November 1864 he will offer to Alice the first manuscript of <u>Alice's adventures under ground</u>, all written and drawn by his hand.

In 1865, publication of the book (but numerous copies) but with John TENNIEL's illustrations. The timid young man is put on the front of the stage: everybody want to meet him, know him and even the powerful Queen Victoria wants to read other books from this young author. One could only give her mathematics treaties because apart from his literature Lewis CARROLL is continuing his scientific researches.
He has bringed a lot of things to the mathematic world.

Tensions with Alice's parents:

Privileged instants with Alice LIDDELL will finally be less and less frequent (June 1863) and then breaked by the LIDDELL family, in particular Mrs LIDDELL.

The first break, very important, is when Alice is 11 and a half, especially during the making of <u>Alice's adventures in Wonderland</u>. Lewis CARROLL won't be able to see Alice as freely than before.

June 25th 1863 : Important break with the LIDDELL family from an excerpt of one of Lewis' diaries, dated of December 19th 1863 which marks the end of a new problem in his relations with the LIDDELL. He is invited to a crocket game: « *I almost did not see them since June. I mark this day with a white stone.* »

May 1864: new problem with his relation with Alice's mother. « *All last days, I asked the authorization to take along the children, Alice, Edith and Rhoda, on the river; Mrs LIDDELL refuses to let any of them come in the future, which is unuseful.* »

Then important tensions are to note with the Dean LIDDELL too, firstly worried about his attachment to Alice, then exasperated by violent pamphlets – its anonymity did not trick anybody – where Lewis CARROLL accused him and Oxford authorities. (*Notes by an Oxford Chiel* - 1874)

Some of his biographs think that he would have done a request for marriage to the LIDDELL family but that Alice's mother, having big plans for her daughters, would have refused. It's difficult to know the true kind of relation they had.

Furthermore four volumes of Lewis CARROLL's diaries on the 13 existents have mysteriously disappeared. Two concerned the period when he frequented Alice the more. It's the number 6 and 7 which cover the period from April 1858 to May 1862. Finally they have been written before the first main break with the LIDDELL family. The two other missing are the numbers 1 and 3.

It's harmful for historians and CARROLL enthusiasts that one of his nieces did cut with a razor some pages of other diaries, especially the ones around June 1863. (We will never know why...)

The mystery is therefore total on this relation. We have to indicate that one has to replace it in its century. Indeed, the tradition of Victorian epoch (and even the english civilian code!) indicates that one could make his official request for marriage (or begin to woo) to families where the concerned child was 12 or more.
One sometimes even had to hurry because all was decided quickly. For example, at this time, asking her hand to a young woman after her 18 years was already late and risked.

From the end of 1868 to January 1871, period during which he wrote his second book Through the looking glass and what Alice found there, he only mentionned once the LIDDELL family, so present in the past. With the publication of the book, a new quarrel happened (without knowing if it had to do with the contents of this book).

It is quite disturbing to see the last photo of Alice LIDDELL made by Lewis CARROLL. She was 18 and something seemed to be broken in her, she had no expression in her eyes, as though she no longer had a soul...

Alice LIDDELL, at 18.

One could think that during all his life, Lewis tried to create again with other young girls the privileged relationship he succeeded to weave with Alice. However, she stays, as he will tell her years later in a letter, her ideal « child friend ».

Anyway, he stayed single all his life and died the 14th of January 1898. He was buried in Guidford where his family was set since 1868 after his father's death.

Alice became an artist, helped in this by John RUSKIN. She travelled in Europe with her sisters Lorina and Edith.
From her trips in France and Italy between 1872 and 1877, she kept severals watercolors and drawings of high sensitivity. She was said to have an affair with the prince Leopold, son of the Queen Victoria. But the 15th of September 1880 she finally married Reginald HARGREAVES, student in Oxford too, in Westminster.

In 1928, having financial difficulties, she was forced to decide to sell her original copy of Alice's adventures under ground that DODGSON gave her.
The sell took place at Sotheby's with a record price (at that time) of 15 400 pounds. It was sold again for 50 000 pounds in 1946. Two years later, a group of american get it but Luther EVANS, supervising the library of the congres, brings it back in England on the *Queen Elisabeth*. He offered it to british people for their courage during World War two. The precious book is now at the *British Library*.

Alice LIDDELL, at 19.

Through the looking glass

Written between 1869 and january 1871, <u>Through the Looking Glass</u> was conceived like a continuation of <u>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</u>.

After having tried to teach chess to her small cat, Alice decided to walk "through the looking glass". There, she met surprising animals and several extraordinary characters during her strange journey in a chessboard-like world.

Among them was a King who is happy that she could not see « anyone at this distance » and a Queen who promises jam « for each following day ». After many different adventures, Alice ends up reaching the last square of the board and therefore becomes a Queen, as a normal pawn in a real game would. She then leads a sumptuous and magical feast.

A lot of studies were made by specialists to find out weither or not Alice's trip was foreseen as a chess game or a chess problem. When one thinks of it as a chess game, it seems obvious. But according to the strict chess rules, Lewis CARROLL took too much freedom (white plays alone for several moves, a checked king stays like this during 2 moves!) to see it just as a normal game...

Excerpt from the book:
"For some minutes Alice stood without speaking, looking out in all direction over the country and a most curious country it was. There were a number of tiny little brooks running straight across it from side to side, and the ground between was divided up into squares by a number of little green hedges, that reached from brook to brook.
"I declare it's marked out just like a large chess-board!" Alice said at last.
"There ought to be some men moving about somewhere and so there are!" she added in a tone of delight, and her heart began to beat quick with excitement as she went on.
"It's a great huge game of chess that's being played all over the world if this is the world at all, you

know. Oh, what fun it is! How I wish I was one of them! I wouldn't mind being a Pawn, if only I might join through oh course I should like to be a Queen, best."

She glanced rather shyly at the real Queen as she said this, but her companion only smiled pleasantly, and said "That's easily managed. You can be the White Queen's Pawn, if you like, I Second Square to begin with: when you get to the Eighth Square you'll be a Queen" Just this moment, somehow or other, they began to run. »

The last coded message of Lewis CARROLL

Here is the last message (coded !) that Lewis CARROLL addressed in December 1896 to the chess players and his readers of the book <u>Through the looking glass and what Alice found there</u> which is the continuation of <u>Alice's adventures in Wonderland</u>.

Preface to the 1896 edition

As the chess-problem, given on the previous page, has puzzled some of my readers, it may be well to explain that it is correctly worked out, so far as the *moves* are concerned. The *alternation* of Red and White is perhaps not so strictly observed as it might be, and the "castling" of the three Queens is merely a way of saying that they entered the palace; but the "check" of the White King at move 6, the capture of the Red Knight at move 7, and the final "checkmate" of the Red King, will be found, by any one who will take the trouble to set the pieces and play the moves as directed, to be strictly in accordance with the laws of the game.

The new words, in the poem "Jabberwocky", have given rise to some differences of opinion as to their pronunciation: so it may be well to give instructions on *that* point also. Pronounce "slithy" as if it were the two words "sly, the": make the "g" *hard* in "gyre" and "gimble": and pronounce "rath" to rhyme with "bath".

For this sixty-first thousand, fresh electroypes have been taken from the wood-blocks (witch, never having been used for printing from, are in as good condition as when first cut in 1871), and the whole book has been set up afresh with new type. If the artistic qualities of this reissue fall short, in any particular, of those possessed by the original issue, it will not be for want of painstaking on the part of author, publisher, or printer.
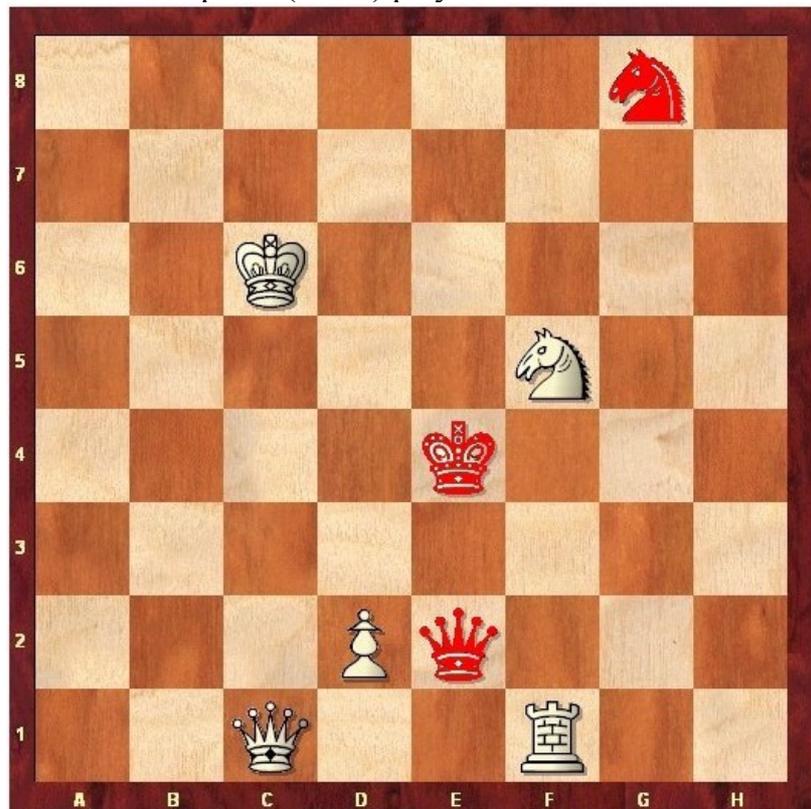
I take this opportunity of announcing that the Nursery "Alice", hitherto priced at four shillings, net, is now to be had on the same terms as the ordinary shilling pictures books – although I feel sure that it is, in every quality (except the *text* itself, in which I am not qualified to pronounce), greatly superior to them. Four shillings was a perfectly reasonable price to charge, considering the very heavy initial outlay I had incurred: still, as the Public have practically said, "We will *not* give more than a shilling for a picture-book, however artistically got-up, "I am content to reckon my outlay on the book as so much dead loss, and, rather than let the little ones, for whom it was written, go without it, I am selling it at a price which is, to me, much the same thing as *giving* it away.

Christmas, 1896

Lewis CARROLL

And here is the diagram which is before the story with this text:

The white pawn (Alice) plays and wins in 11 moves

1 Alice meets red Queen

2 Alice through **d3** (*by railway*) moves to **d4** (*Tweedledum et Tweedledee*)

3 Alice meets white Queen (*with shawl*)

4 Alice moves to **d5** (*shop, river, shop*)

5 Alice moves to **d6** (*Humpty Dumpty*)

6 Alice moves to **d7** (*forest*)

7 ♘**xe7** – White Knight takes red Knight

8 Alice moves to **d8** (*coronation*)

9 Alice becomes **Queen**

10 Alice castles (*feast*)

11 Alice takes red Queen, and wins. ♕**xe8** checkmate.

1 ♛**h5** – The red Queen moves to h5

2 ♕**c4** - The white Queen (*after shawl*) moves to c4

3 ♕**c5** (*the white Queen becomes sheep*)

4 ♕**f8**
(*the white Queen leaves egg on shelf*)

5 ♕**c8** (*flying from the red Knight*)

6 ♞**e7+** - The red Knight moves to e7 (*check*)

7 ♘**f5** - The white Knight moves to f5

8 ♛**e8** - Red Queen moves to e8 (*examination*)

9 Queens castle

10 ♛**a6** (*soup*)

And what if we casually told you that:
- The white Pawn is Alice LIDDELL,
- The white Knight must be a messenger sent by Lewis CARROLL, trying to become Alice's dearest knight.
- The red Knight embodies Charles LUTWIDGE DODGSON, who also becomes the white Knight during the 6th and 7th moves.
- The white King is Alice's father (Mr LIDELL).
- The white Queen is Alice's mother (Mrs LIDDELL).
- The red Queen symbolizes Queen Victoria (and not Mrs PRICKETT, Alice's housekeeper)
- The red King is the mystery, the part of dreams we all have in us. It embodies Charles L. DODGSON dreaming about the young Alice and all the adventure. He uses both knights to deliver his message...
- The white Rook is the White Tower (a very famous prison in London), symbolizing the conservative and Victorian society during the XIXth century (the white Knight appears like a prisonner of this tower).

Number of moves:
The white pieces play 13 times and several moves successively whereas the black pieces only play 3 times. But the author lays the emphasis (in the text commenting the second move) on the fact that Alice's first move as a white Pawn counts as two, since she moves from d2 to d3 by the railroad then reaches d4. Therefore there are 14 white moves and 3 black ones. 14 x 3 = 42, that is to say L. CARROLL's favourite number!

The choice of colours:
The opposition between black and white pieces in chess was changed into red and white: passion-softness, fire-snow.
Red embodies passion, love and hatred with all that it involves.
White represents softness, marriage, virginity and purity: Alice, but also what the british society was faking and nobility.

**Only one piece is missing in the game: the Bishop**
We have to explain that the word "bishop" has a religious sense in English.
One may notice that there is no bishop in the game. It seems like L. CARROLL willingly kept it out. Is that due to his doubts concerning religion throughout his life, or to his respect towards it?

Some treasures from L. CARROLL's chess game:
Let us first imagine the hidden initials of Lewis CARROLL (L and C) in the following position, just to see how deep the author thought it out...

## The white Pawn (Alice) plays and wins in 11 moves
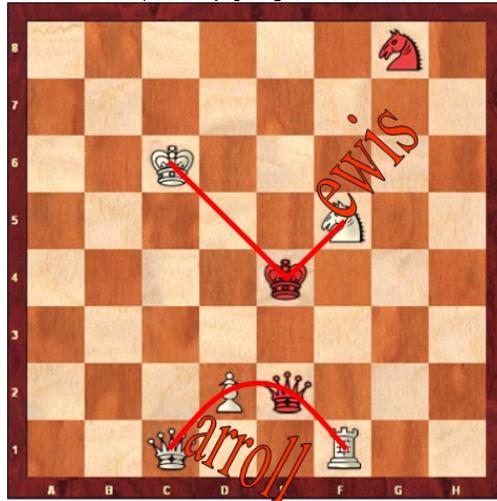
Let us take a look at the position at the beginning of this game:
- Let us imagine that the white Queen (Mrs LIDDELL) holds Alice (white Pawn) by the hand while observing the Victorian society (white Rook).
- Queen Victoria (the red Queen) stands above the white rook, and starts the game talking with Alice. She begins the game.
- One might notice that the red Knight is on the g8 square, that is to say 7 squares from the bottom and 6 squares from the left of the board. As already said, L. CARROLL lived for several years in the square-like Christ Church, in a flat number 6 where people could only access through the stairs number 7 (6 x 7 = 42!). Besides, only the red Knight checks the King during the game and, since the check is written "+", it may well embody the sacred cross of the deacon Charles L. DODGSON.
- Let us also notice that the white King (Mr LIDDELL) is in diagonal opposition with the red King (the dreaming C. L. DODGSON), who holds by the hand the white Knight, his messenger. Just as in the author's true life, where he is in conflict with Alice's father.

Now, let us look at the 6th and 7th moves (6x7 = 42!), as indicated in the preface of 1896... (… *but the "check" of the White King at move 6, the capture of the Red Knight at move 7, (...) will be found to be strictly in accordance with the laws of the game...*)

6. The red Knight plays in e7 (check).
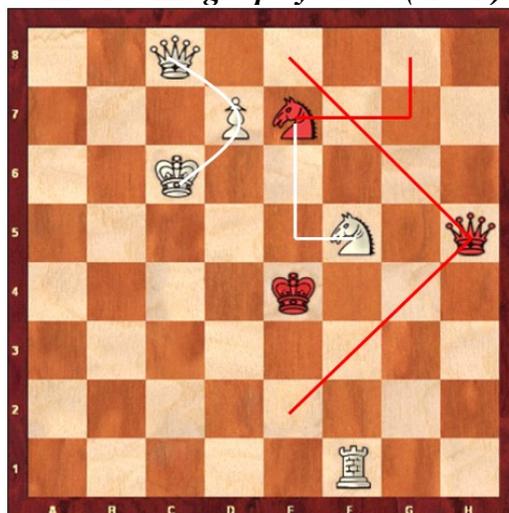
Signature of the writer or drawer:

The red Knight plays in e7. The white Knight takes in e7. The white Knight goes back to f5: 3 moves in form of L: L like Lewis, Love and LIDDELL!

The red Knight gives check to the King and Queen while talking to Alice.

These 3 white pieces are forming the C of CARROLL or Church!
Like said previously a check is noted « + ». It represents the Christ's cross.

This religious sign reminds the Deacon dressed in black (red): Charles L. DODGSON, the red Knight.

The red Queen moves in diagonal from left to right then from right to left. This itinerary forms the V of Victoria!

Numerous signatures:

The main issue of this game seems to be a decisive discussion between parents (white King and Queen) and a Deacon (red Knight) on the destiny of the young girl Alice (white Pawn).

Wants the red Knight, doing this royal fork, get rid of her parents?
No, the C of CARROLL on the 3 pieces « King, Queen and Pawn » seems rather to point out: « Do you accept that Alice LIDDELL takes the name of CARROLL? ».
Indeed, this sacrifice (he is taked by the white Knight: his double) permits him to do another request but with new clothes... White clothes, synonym of marriage...

The sign + (check) which represents the Christ's Cross † seems to be an invitation to enter in the church.
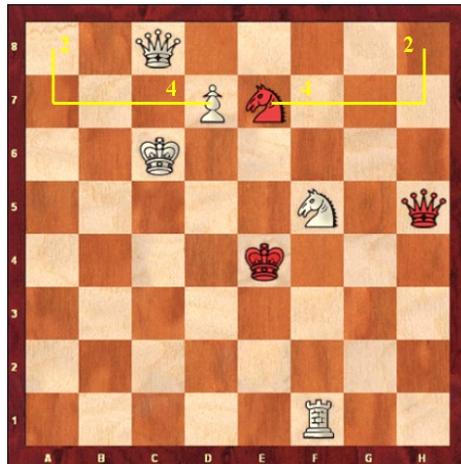The transformation of the red Knight in white Knight is finally a request to enter in the family. Furthermore, becoming white, he takes the same colour of the LIDDELL family. (becomes a nobelman?)

Again the presence of a letter? The Y of YES!

6. The red Knight plays in e7 (check).

The altar of 42 and the request for marriage!

We will note in this position:
- the exchange of the 2 Knights is done on the 4th column and 2nd rank of black (= 42!)
- the white Pawn (Alice) is on the 4th column of white and 2nd rank of black. Another 42 in mirror!

Like before the game begins, Alice is on a square of the 42 (under her parents' eye). Lewis CARROLL et Charles L. DODGSON (the 2 Knights, messengers of the red King) are on a square of the 42 too, under the red King's eye who is dreaming of all this adventure...

These 2 squares are forming a rectangle: the altar of 42 where takes place the request for marriage!

The red Knight has just climbed a step under the red King's eye. The red King, Charles L. DODGSON, sends his pre-marriage message to the LIDDELL family with famous moves 6 and 7 (Ng8-e7+ and Nf5 takes Ne7).

Let us reverse the board (like in the XIXth century's notation!) to have a better view of the altar of 42!

This request for marriage fails because at the next move the white Knight takes his place back in f5: « Go back to your dreams M. CARROLL! »

The end of the itinerary of red Queen (V = Victoria) explains the reason of the refusal: Alice was promised to a person of royal blood. The red Queen, arrived on the square e8, examines the LIDDELL family: Alice, the white Queen and the white King, while observing the red King dreaming of all this adventure.

Poetic signature: Charles and Alice together for the eternity

9. Alice becomes Queen

d8= ♕
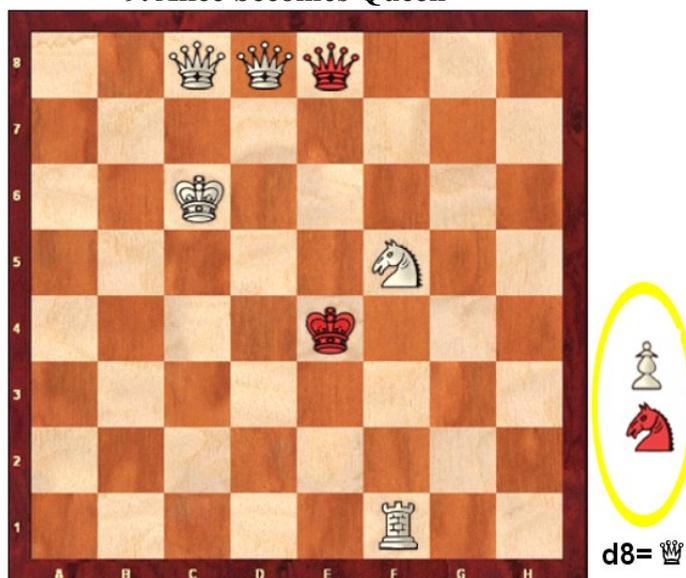
This transformation of Alice in white Queen marks the end of the relation « adult-child » between Charles L. DODGSON and Alice.

Alice (white Pawn) transforms herself in Queen (in woman) and disappears from the board (« You should stop when 7-years-old! »). Remember that the author (red Knight) has disappeared before too. Nice poetic instant when the two friend pieces, Charles L. DODGSON and Alice meet again together for the eternity outside of the board... Nobody will be able to stole their wonderful story « adult-child ».

Poetic and esoteric signature

This hidden signature confirms well the identity of the author who liked particularly the number 42.
So, here are the values of chess pieces:

Pawn: 1 point
Knight: 3 points
Bishop: 3 points
Rook: 5 points
Queen: 10 points (XIXth century)
King: The game!

The sum on the board is 10 + 10 + 10 + 5 + 3 = 38 points. The sum out of the board is 3 + 1 = 4 points. 38 + 4 = 42 points!

Again and always the 42...

If furthermore we now look at the list of moves proposed by Lewis CARROLL we can find (in addition to moves 6 and 7 which are divisors of 42) another hidden 42. Make the addendum of the numbers of moves until the 6th move (**6 ... ♘e7 +**) and you will be surprised:

White moves	Red moves
1 Alice meets red Queen	**1 ... ♛h5**
2 d4	
2 ♛c4	
3 Alice meets white Queen	
3 ♛c5	
4 d5	
4 ♛f8	
5 d6	
5 ♛c8	
6 d7	**6 ... ♘e7 +**
	= 42!
7 ♘xe7	
7 ♘f5	
8 d8	**8 ... ♛e8**
9 Alice becomes a Queen	
9 Queens castel	
10 Alice castels	
10 ♛a6 (soup)	
11 ♛xe8 mate	

So you will see that the sum of all these moves until **6 ... ♘e7 +** is equal to 42 (1+1+2+2+3+3+4+4+5+5+6+6 = 42), it's the square which represents the request for marriage, square and move where the author absolutely wants to attract our attention.

Moreover if you come back to the first text of moves of the game proposed by the author, you will see that he has certainly deliberately done 2 columns: one of 11 half moves and the other of 10 half moves, which makes 10+11 half moves = 21 half moves on 2 columns = 42! We underline that Lewis CARROLL has 20 years an half more than Alice (20 half moves and one half move!) and 20 years an half less than the Dean LIDDELL, Alice's father...

Numbered diaries of Charles L. DODGSON have mysteriously disappeared on the 13 existents: numbers 1, 3, 6 and 7.
So, it's funny to note that in the chess game which interests us:
  - One Pawn (Alice) = 1 point, the disappeared diary number 1.
  - One red or white Knight (Charles L. DODGSON or Lewis CARROLL) = 3 points, the disappeared diary number 3.
  - One white Knight (Lewis CARROLL) + one red Knight (Charles L . DODGSON) = 6 points, the disappeared diary number 6.
  - One white Knight (Lewis CARROLL) + one red Knight (Charles L . DODGSON) + one Pawn (Alice) = 7 points, the disappeared diary number 7. Coincidence?

However here it becomes very surprising: while adding up the numbers of the remaining diaries 2+4+5+8+9+(1+0)+(1+1)+(1+2)+(1+3), we find 38 which is the value of the remaining pieces on the board. If we add the value of diaries 1 and 3 or the value of pieces out of the board (3+1 for the eternity), we find another time 42. Diaries 6 and 7 being deliberatly omitted because 6 x7 = 42!

How did Lewis CARROLL achieve all this symbolic around the topic of the 42? Certainly an instant of eternity and genius!

Some coindicences: let us note that CARROLL is dead 42 years after having took his pseudonym and having met Alice, that he began photography this year too and stopped it suddenly, 24 years later (1880)!
The size of the diameter of the ornamental basin of Christ Church is exactly 42 foots.

Why is there no Bishop in this game?
- *Because there is no marriage!*

Why this choice of white and red pieces?
– *The white for the marriage and purity.*
– *The red for the passion and love.*

<div align="center">

In Lyon, May 6th 2008
Christophe LEROY

</div>

* Queens are 101 years 5 months 1 day the day where Alice is exactly 7 and a half. Born May 4th 1852, so it's the 4th of November 1859. Now let us go back of 101 years 5 months and 1 day. We are June 3th 1758. Let us calculate the number of days between these 2 dates:
77x365+24x366 (1800 is not leap) = 36889 days.
From June 3th to November 4th, included, there are 155 days.
36889+155=37044. And as there are 2 Queens, 37044 x 2 = 74088...
One has to notice that in the gregorian calendar, established in 1582, leap years doesn't take place all 4 years like in the julian calendar because the rule is: divisible by 4 but not by 100 OR divisible by 400