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How did Lewis Carroll become a logician?

It's well known that Lewis Carroll, the famous author of the Alice books, was a mathematician. His works include essentially manuals of Euclidean geometry, a treatise on determinants, popular textbooks on logic and collections of problems and puzzles. The majority of these works were signed with his real name: Charles L. Dodgson. The logical works are an exception. In effect, Carroll signed his two textbooks *The Game of Logic* (1886) and *Symbolic Logic* (1896) and his two articles in *Mind*: "A logical Paradox" (1894) and "What the Tortoise said to Achilles" (1895) with his "literary" pseudonym.

This state of affairs led to a number of prejudices and misunderstandings which influenced the reception of the work. People thought that Carroll's work was intended for children, that he considered logic a game and that his logical work completed and concluded his literary work. Even when his works revealed accurate ideas and discoveries, commentators claimed Carroll was not fully "conscious" of the depth of his works.

In this paper, I will essentially try to contextualise Lewis Carroll's logical work according to three themes: first, historically according to the development of the new logic in the nineteenth century; then geographically, by focusing on the academic British background; and finally personally by situating Carroll's logical works in relation to the rest of his work. From this, we can correct certain received ideas which harm the understanding of the work. Also, we will be able to suggest new ways to explain the use which Carroll made of his pseudonym, the growing interest which he had in logic, and finally the status he gave it.