

## Christ Church Library, Carroll Collection

### The Harcourt/Dodgson Papers

Digitised images: *Letter from Dodgson to Harcourt written as a poem* (BXB-10-LE)

Notes and captions by Edward Wakeling

#### Introductory notes:

The Harcourt/Dodgson Papers, containing various Carrollian items, was donated to Christ Church Library by Robert Vernon Harcourt in 1984. He was the second cousin of Augustus George Vernon Harcourt (1834-1919), Lees Reader in Chemistry at Christ Church, who was a good friend of Dodgson. Many of these items were presented to A. G. V. Harcourt by Dodgson. The items are:

BXB-01-WK, Notes by an Oxford Chiel: The Dynamics of a Parti-cle

BXB-02-WK, The Blank Cheque

BXB-03-WK, The Game of Logic

BXB-04-WK, A Method of Taking Votes on more than Two Issues

BXB-05-LF, Scenes from an Unfinished Drama entitled Phrontisterion

BXB-06-WK, A Discussion of the Various Methods of Procedure in Conducting Elections

BXB-07-WK, The Vision of the Three T's

BXB-08-LE, Letter from Dodgson to Harcourt

BXB-09-LE, Letter from Dodgson to Mrs. Harcourt

BXB-10-LE, Letter from Dodgson to Harcourt written as a poem

BXB-11-WK, A Tangled Tale Knot II, Mad Mathesis

BXB-12-WK, A Tangled Tale, Answers to Knot II

BXB-10-LE. This item is a manuscript letter written in the form of a poem, accepting an invitation to visit, dated 5 March 1872. The full text of the letter follows:

[Christ Church, Oxford] March 5, 1872

O come to me at two today,  
Harcourt, come to me!  
And show me how my dark room may  
Illuminated be.  
Though gondolas may lightly glide,  
For me, unless you come,  
No friend remains but cyanide  
Of pale potassium!

Though maidens sing sweet barcaroles  
(Whatever they may be)  
To captivate Lee's-Readers' souls,  
Yet, Harcourt, come to me!  
Yes, come to me at two today,  
Or else at two tomorrow,  
Nor leave thy friend to pine away  
In photographic sorrow. C.L.D.