

CHESS GAME OF LOVE 1475



The Poem
Scachs d'amor (1475)
First Text of
Modern Chess.

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PRELUDE - Scachs d'Amor

There are many poets who have poems and couplets in this art competition, and we find three poets among them, writers of scachs d'amor:

- Francesc Castellví,
- Bernard Fenollar
- Narcís de Vinyoles.

The *Obres e Trobes* is considered to be the first literary work printed in Spain of which the only known copy in the world is preserved in the University Library of Valencia.

The Poem
Scachs d'amor (1475)
First Text of
Modern Chess.



Govert Westerveld

PRELUDE – King Ferdinand and his passion for the game

It consists of 60 leaves without foliation and signature and is written in Roman letters on paper with hand and star watermark. The three poets, as we see, already knew each other.

Seeing the relationship they had with King Ferdinand and knowing his passion for the game of chess, there may be another thing they thought about around 1475.

It was time to change the figure of the queen and bishop on the chessboard and inform the King by means of their poem in the form of a manuscript.

One of the most exiting discoveries of Jerónimo Miguel Briongos was that Juan Ramírez de Lucena was working with Prince Ferdinand in Aragon before Ferdinand married Isabel I in 1469.

Don Francí de Castellví carries the game of **Mars** and takes the name of **Love**;

his standard is red [**white pieces**];

- his King is *reason*,
- his Queen, *will*;
- his Rooks, *desires*;
- his Knights, *praises*;
- his Bishops, *1 thoughts*;
- his Pawns, *services*.

Narcís Vinyoles carries the game of **Venus**, and takes the name of **Glory**;

his standard is green [**black pieces**];

- his King is *honor*;
- his Queen, *beauty*;
- his Rooks, *reserve*;
- his Knights, *disdains*;
- his Bishops, *sweet glances*;
- his Pawns, *courtesies*.

Mossèn Fenollar speaks the effects of **Mercury**:

- first, he scans the board;
- he compares it to Time;
- he counts the number of houses, they are sixty-four; sixty-four stanzas answer to them;
- he proffers the laws and pacts that must be followed by the players.

Castellví (Mars)



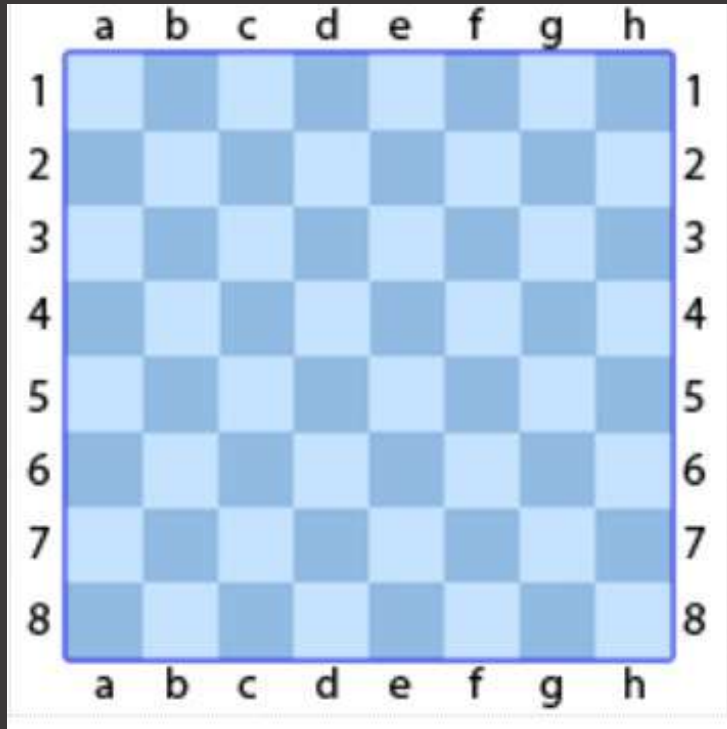
As **Mars** met **Venus** in a temple,
While having **Mercury** in their presence,
He devised a game of chess, with new example:
Taking Reason as King without pre-eminence;
Will for Queen, with great potency;
Thoughts he deems for his Bishops;
His Knights, praises of sweet eloquence;
Rooks are desires to flare up one's memory;
Pawns are servers striving to Victory.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)



Venus, to exercise her glory,
Desired for her Rooks cautious reserve;
For Knights, disdains of deserved return;
Her Bishops, glances of delightful sight;
For her Lady she took most pleasing beauty;
And her King, following the tale of love,
Was Honor, his life ever in danger;
For faithful Pawns he took courtesy,
All armed and clad with ostentation.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)



Mercury, always ready in his ways,
Painted the board with hues clear and dark:
And made it Time, split into days and nights,
A box to bring the first enclosures.
Crossing it, he divided it into four natures
Of times diverse; and then, in following his guides,
Of each part he made four equal parts.
By dividing in this mode the rest,
The list adds up to four and sixty.

Castellví (Mars)

(King's Pawn to the fourth house)



The fields assigned and all the men at ready,
The great warrior, with his red standard,
Decided to move as soon as required
Taking Love as the name for the battle;
He moved towards the field of the beautiful
The most valiant Pawn in conquest:
He moved two paces towards her.
By this move the King discovers Reason
And opens the road of Will.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(Queen's Pawn to the fourth house)

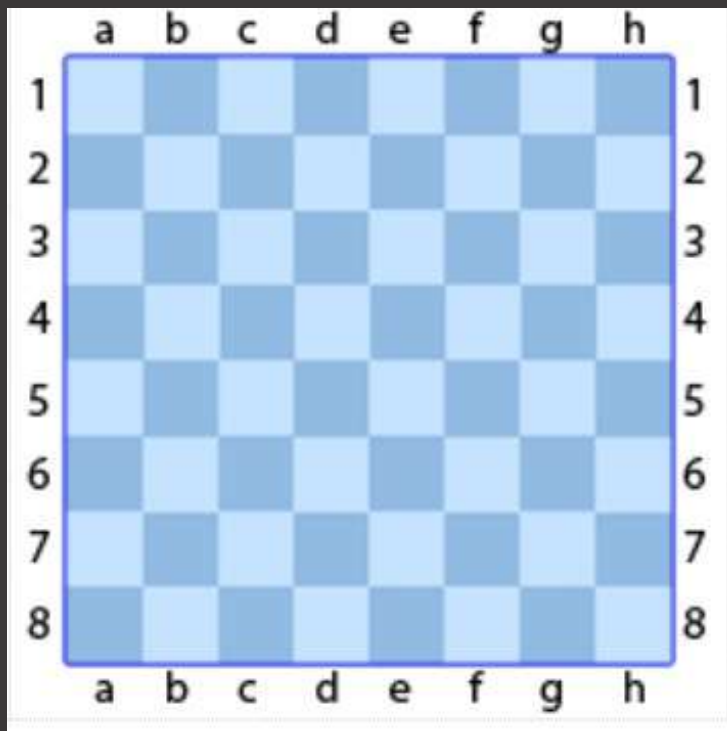


The gentle Lady, not lacking in spirit,
Carrying the green banner of Hope
And shouting: "Glory, glory covers
My people with all blessings!"

Her Pawn, courteous, well-tempered
Moves up, because Beauty opens,
In the game of love, the first step.
With a humble gesture for defense,
Her heart was pierced with the thrust of love.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(He says that a piece touched must be played)



The first rule you must abide by
Is, in this game, that a piece once touched
Firmly, admitting neither debate nor confront,
By any player, true, must be played.
It falls to reason: for a lover's thoughts
Having chosen, cannot freedom afford
Or doubt, but take full submission.
Thus the saying: "Courage and folly
In every move, as once done, done it is!"

Castellví (Mars)

(His King's Pawn takes the Lady's Pawn)



Good service, received with courtesy,
Made a new effort to accept it,
Becoming lord of the spot where he took it
Giving no thought whether she'd be annoyed;
Because the force that led him so to love her,
Moved him to such glory of desire,
Ever following love, until he found her.
The enterprising one, to get his way
Will not be stopped by turns or thrusts.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(The Lady, to her fourth house, takes the Pawn that had taken hers)



So as to let Beauty's fame shine through,

Seeing that service delights in Courtesy,

With great rigor she left her house

To punish all those foolish fantasies.

Caring not a bit for silly niceties,

Looking around, as a crane scans the field,

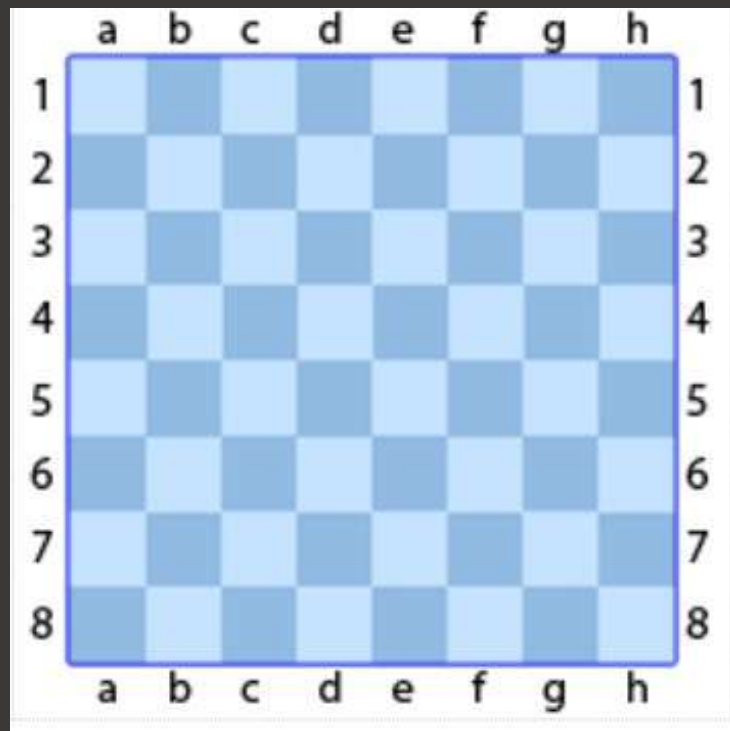
She kills the Pawn who'd strutted proud.

One who takes action must look, to learn,

To not being hit by the aims he's taken.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(He says a piece is taken for good)



The next law that you both must abide by
Is that a piece taken will remain captive;
And so Will must take great care
Whom she takes, for she's a haughty dame.

One who dodges the highest of hits
Remains the lowest, and so will learn the game;
Understanding will get this gently.

If Will won't placate Reason,
It stands to sense that the captured be felled.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen's Knight moves to the Bishop's third house, aiming towards the Lady)



Will, as it is desirous to please.
As soon as it can to the chosen

Lady Strives towards her in order to get
His great Praise with most perfect tongue.

It was a discreet person's mind
To think ever to serve and not displease
One who has been made lady of his heart.

It is a fool who dares give insult
Against one who is due a vassal's homage.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

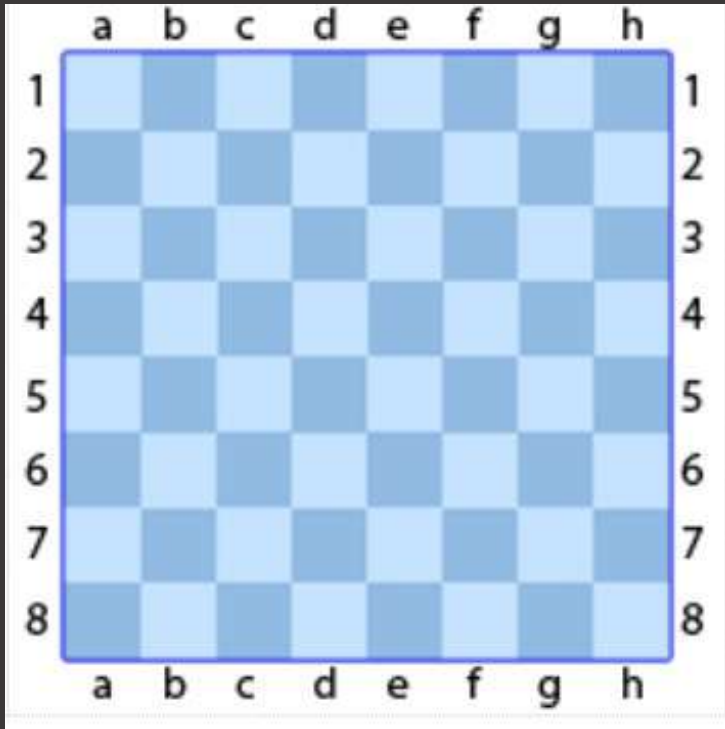
(The Lady goes back to her place)



So as to keep the homage tower
The gracious lady returns to her place;
For a Knight, mostly one of noble breed,
Should not wish to stain an honest fame.
So the one in love, when inflamed by passion,
Should not attempt to damage the goods of honor;
And, if he dared do so, as she flees, his plan is broken.
For when it rains, if you seek shelter under leaves,
Believing yourself dry, you might get wet.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

*(Says that if you have pointed at or touched the house,
you must get in)*



The third decree tells all to retrieve
To their castle or house of conquest,
And should not want to ever again lose it;
Otherwise, they ought to die with drawn sword.
For Will feeds such fire
As brings about continued strength;
A lady is one who stuns all senses.
Because, against one's wishes, you'll never conquer love,
And cannot change until the wish desists.

Castellví (Mars)

(The King's Bishop moves to the fourth house in line with the Queen's Bishop)

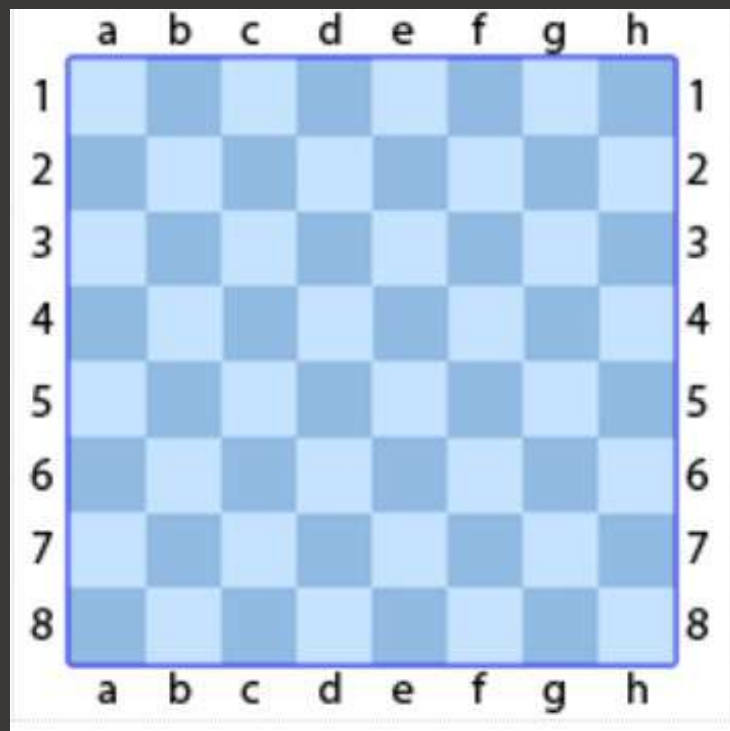


Reason, finding sharper than a knife's edge
The Lady whom he most humbly loved,
Being left quite sad from such deception
And seeing that Praises and Services she disdained,
For the value that appealed to her.

His Thought, that conquers with sighs,
To the fourth degree he sent a spy.
One who would leap for his exaltation
Must first lower himself a bit.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(So the King can go first to his third house)



The next decree for this our game
Is that Kings to their third house,
At first shot, keeping within measure,
May jump in total freedom;
And so they'll show that for the high road
We must at times abandon the safety of the plain:
Such model is expected from them.
Thus each one, as limits are trespassed,
Will err, but slightly if attention is paid.

Castellví (Mars)

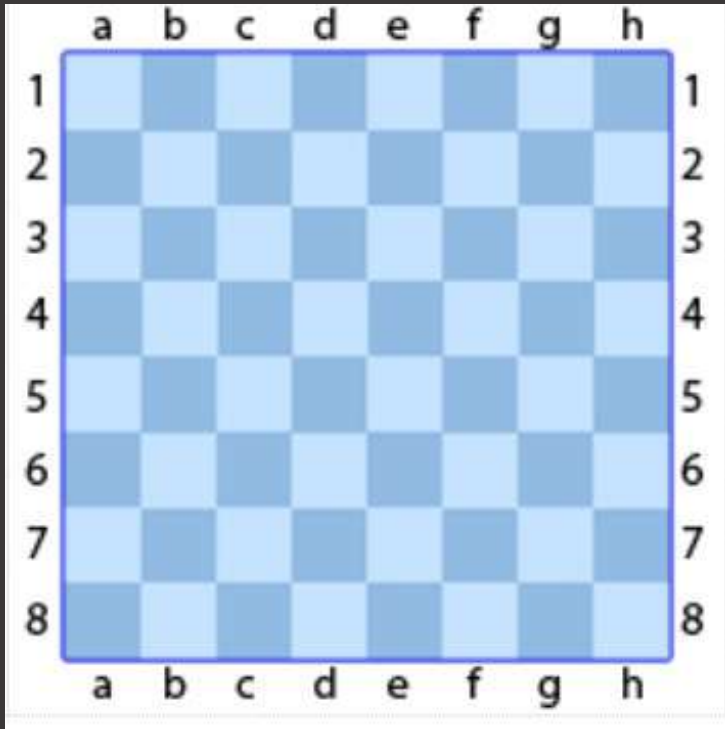
(Plays King's Knight to the Bishop's third house)



One in love, realizing that pride
And annoyance does not please the gentle lady,
Had to use Reason, to temper events;
And Reason was a willing and great ally:
Her Sweet Speech, that so seduces,
Gave him, with no need of fearsome sword
To reach one whom the world adores.
What great help, and at very little cost,
The sweet sound is of composite Praise.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says that with the jump of the third he cannot take the King)



Because Kings, with invincible power,
Cannot extend themselves beyond their reason,
It is decreed that, by making the move possible,
They can never checkmate, or take;
Thus showing the world that in meting punishment or
revenge

They must blend mercy with wrath,
And not overflow their understanding;
For, if they are great with their wings of potency,
Greater they'll be by using clemency.

Castellví (Mars)

(Plays the King side rook pawn one point, threatening the Bishop)



Seeing the Gaze on such fine countenance,
The good Desire, serving under Reason,
Soon sent, with great reverence,
His Service, to receive one who excites him.
Affection, written upon one's eyes,
Awakens the heart, for convenience
Of the lover, where true love dwells.
Conformity is the most certain bet
As among lovers it feeds their friendship.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

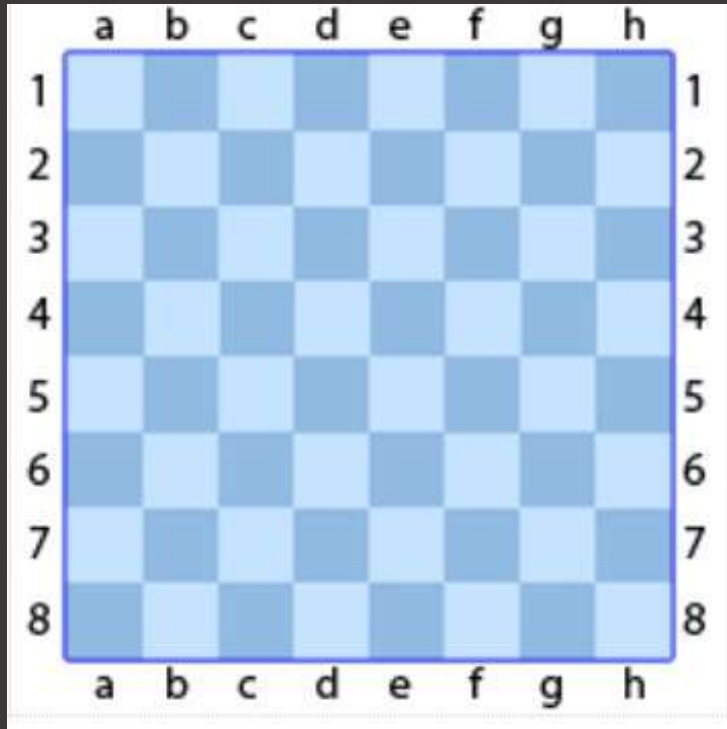
(His Queen's Bishop takes the King's Knight)



As Praise awakens the spirit
And placates Beauty with noble mien,
With Sweet Regard, hitting right on the heart,
Took Praise, in whom hope finds closure,
And to signify that the lover never lacks,
At any time, the offered end of love,
If the fountain of praise is never stanch'd.
For flatterers make the lady so happy
That discontentment appears as contentment.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says the King should not move to the third house over the other pieces)



It was agreed that Kings, in whom such value
Sits, should not jump over the others,
But rather, along safe roads
They must go, where robbers won't attack.

For, as they shine with hour homage,
Leaving behind those who cannot help them,
If poorly guarded, they hurt themselves and their subjects.

Nature wills for members to defend
The head from hurt, as that's where offense hits.

Castellví (Mars)

(The Queen takes the Bishop of the other Queen)

With brightness compensated by great love,
The eyes so lively in their gaze burned
The happy song of spirited Praise,
And humbly requested Will's response.

As they showed themselves they gave such effort
That soon took as pay and recompense
The Rays of the Sun that penetrated the Will.
Stars are the eyes for mariners
To navigate, who in this sea are drowning.



Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(The King advances his pawn one house)

So that lovers may more clearly know

The Honesty carefully enacted

By Thought, which lovers follow,

With courteous playfulness put up a gate

By moving one Pawn one step;

The enemies may spread their squadrons

Seeing for them that all hope has died.

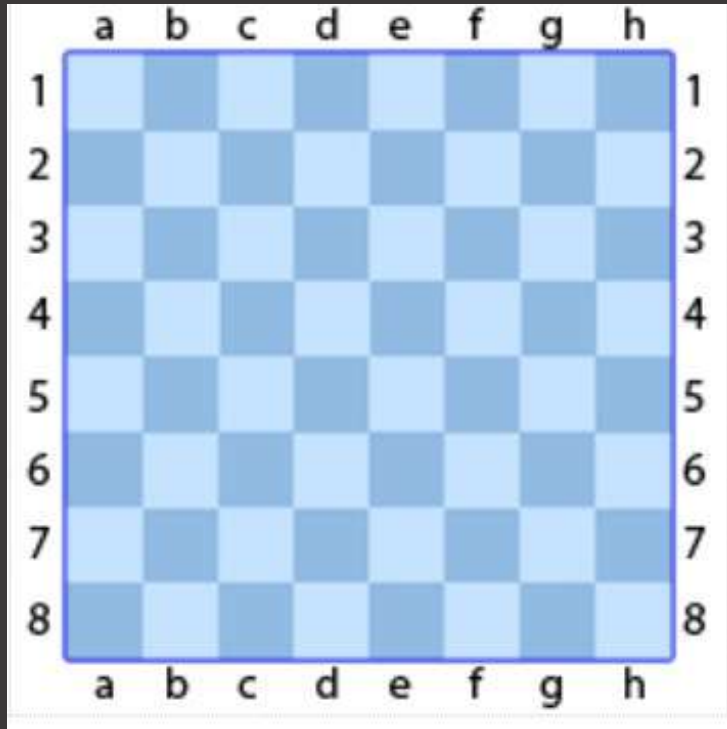
Discretion courteously combs

What desire foolishly musses.



Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says that the King, as he rises, cannot move to the third house)



Another law, now numbering the eighth,
That the valiant King, by retreating his person,
May never, as he's bound by honor,
Skip so much for all the honor of his high crown;
Rather, step by step, as is better ceded,
Make his way back without fear or ruing
And with the gravity that crowns such princes.
For a discreet flight is better
Than to fall prisoner because of rash concerns.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen takes the Knight's Pawn on the Lady's side)



But lusting after amorous fruit

Moved so the free Will

To enter the field of Venus in his fight

Of a Courtesan he tries to disdain.

Mostly because it was the undertaking

Of one who's burning in the fire of love:

Great Beauty, temptress of the wisest.

Seeing that fire has made a flame of smoke

Should alert all that poison is being poured.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(Moves his Queen's Knight to two points of the Queen)

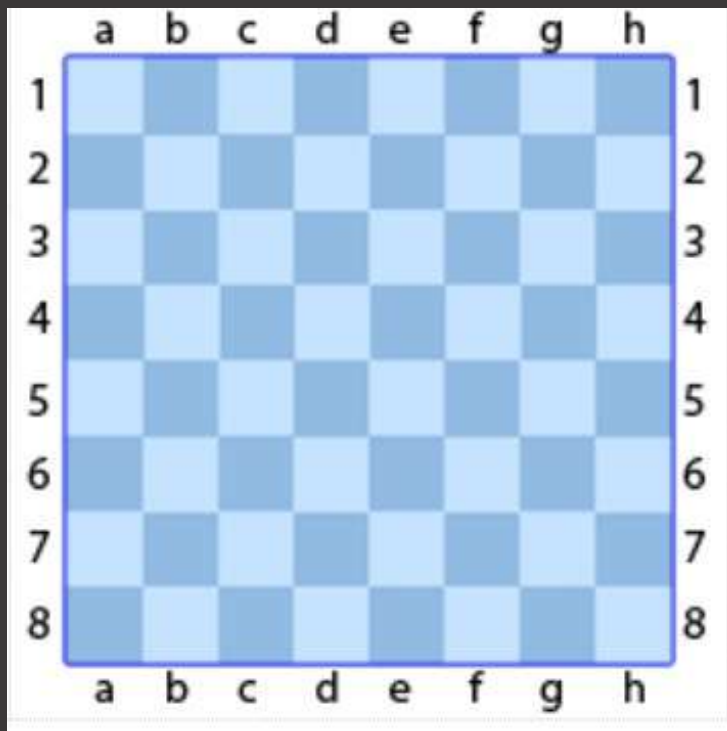


Beauty, seeing that Will is aflame,
Taking her Courtesy against Disdain
And threatening skittish Fame,
For defense, moves with grace;

And having its Knight leap, offers
Battle against the Lady's field
Who attempted to combat Shame.
This is a fine example that disaster never follows
One who can sense the scent.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says that the King must not be wounded or taken without warning, that is calling check)



Another Law that must be ever followed:
That the King not be treated like the rest.
If any move is made against him
Or if besieged by danger from the enemy,
You must warn him, before he's hit by an arrow;
So disposes in the sky that Star
That endowed him with the royal ermine.
The name of King sows dread on enemy camp:
He defends his faithful and bans the wicked.

Castellví (Mars)

(Plays his Queen's Knight to the fourth house of the other Lady's Knight)



Now that war has broken between them,
The great Queen, calling the beautiful name of Love,
Orders the return, apace and close,
Of a Knight to her defense,
And to conquer, by gathering her troops,
The Courtly Defeat of the enemies
That was badly spread on the field.
If one does not counterattack at first,
If he will oppose at last, will fail.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(Moves his Queen's Rook to the house of her Bishop)



Modesty is the gold on which Beauty is mounted:

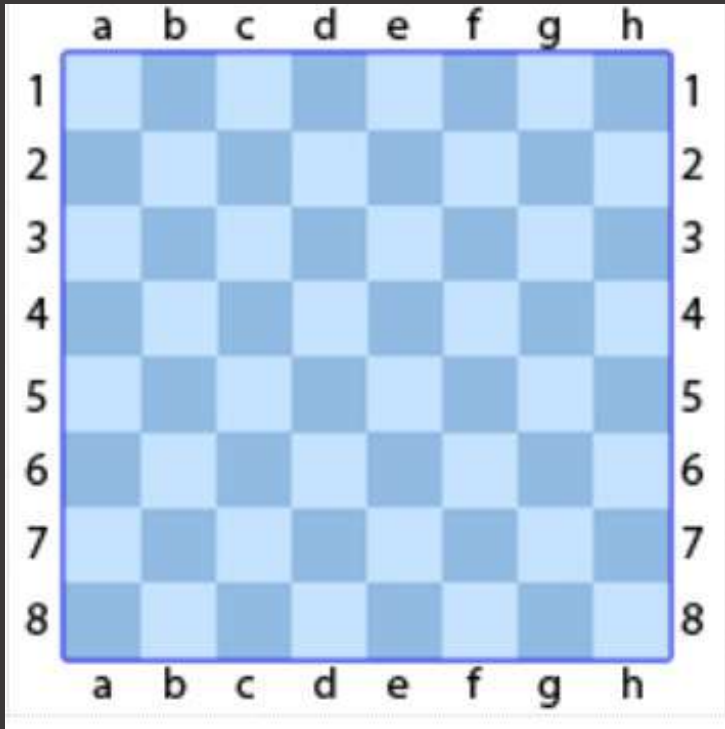
That's why it sits near it in the castle,
And abandons, seeing that the flatterer resorts
To the Courtly style, since he faints of dread.

For Honesty, unseen by all,
Is wounded in a chaste prison
And let the Flatterer into the passageway.

Fear is suited to a bird in danger
As it will save it from being ensnared.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says that the King, being checked, must be covered or move)



Given that the King has been incautiously warned,
The next Law says he must move or be covered;
The enemy is not lacking in daring:
Disdain of foe might well devastate him.
Prudently then he must stop the advancing danger,
As the great lion overcome by a weasel
We see each day, much as he dons the royal toga.
We are all equal, in death and birth:
So equal musty our fearing be.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen's Knight takes the Rook Pawn on the Queen's side)



Seeing how Shame moves to assert her value
To Honor, Courtesy, and Beauty,
The Knight, having weighed his options
And no longer restrained, enters the fray
And breaks that shield which Fear
Of dishonest failing hides behind,
It being the Passion the Lady praises.
The winner, in winning, watches his shot
For often the foe, in turning, overcomes.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

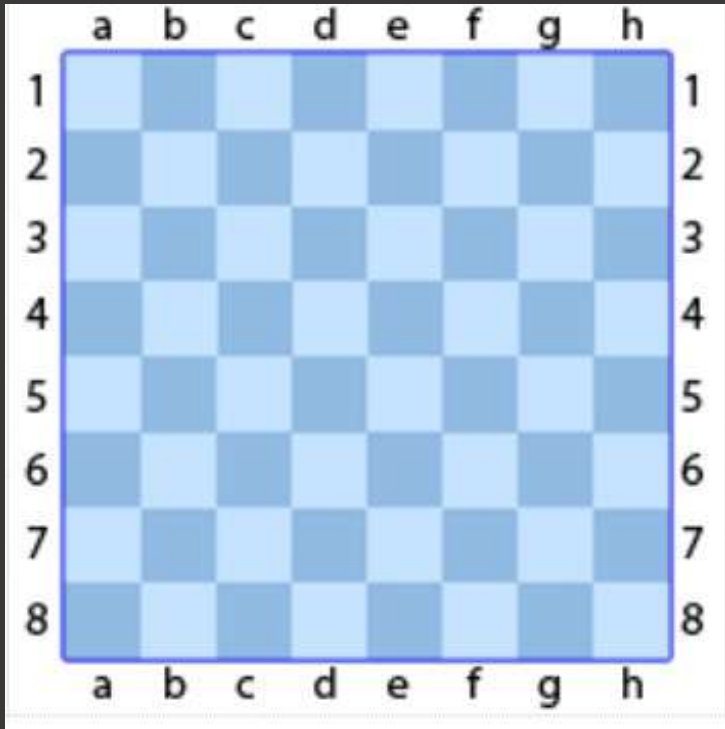
(Queen's Knight moves to three houses from his line)



Beauty, when she can do no more, looks
With outrage, keeping and defending her piece,
And if Praise moves or mingles his;
Beauty remains, constant, unmoved.
For if everything is for the nobler part
And it would seem that its Disdain shoots
Out of its way, or so the people think,
The Discreet, seeing something out of proportion, says:
“He who burns his house must know what he’s doing.”

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says each player must play on his turn, not twice in a row)



Reason must be whole and not empty
Most reasonable in all for everyone;
That's why in the game each player takes his turn:
The one first, going for what seems laudable;
Then the other, responding to such notable task;
Each a chance to fire, hope or fret,
Equal both in the concordant turns.
Let no one think, if winning, to break this rule
For order must be kept in battle.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Knight takes the Queen's Rook)



The Knight, breaking his whip,
Defeats Shame and comes close to the honorable
Beauty so that, with joy and a smile,
Would die like the swan on a green field.
If he dies happy, with undignified death,
The Will should not open the battle,
As the Knight's horse has become a meek lamb.
You see daily death in this sort of fencing:
So think highly of the pain of love.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

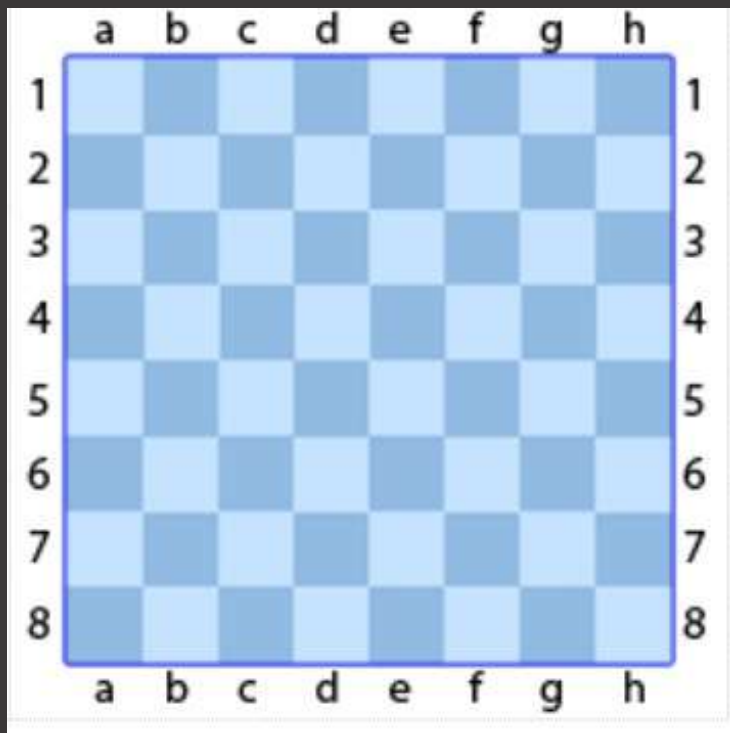
(His Lady's Knight takes the Queen's Knight)

Having lost Shame, which is the acme
Of Honesty, fragrant as a lily,
A strong file to break all villainess,
Moves Outrage, burning hotter than a cauterizer,
Against the Flatterer, giving him such martyrdom
As to erode with torment his false bitterness
And from such sweet potion he makes a soft salve.
Beauty must defend herself and be jealous
For things are priced the more they cost us.



Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says no false move is made, such as a Knight for a Rook, etc.)



A pact is better, even if I have not said it before,
That one cannot steal the power of another;
Thus each must his weight calculate with its tare;

Do not step beyond your rightful place,

Rather play just, so your eye does not fault
The one it looks at. A great race is planned
If you would exchange your Knight for a Rook.

A priest should shun all pomp
And so should the Knight anything against his honor.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen's Pawn moves to the fourth house)



Having broken up the squadron, on the way to victory,
The winner renews his efforts
With shouts and the blare of a valiant horn;
These increase their courage and their strength.

Will, seeing Beauty sail against the wind,
Gives her the present, so as not to stop the game,
Of a new Service to reinforce their friendship.
The game of love must be played adroitly;
One who would force a victory will only find defeat.

Vinyoles (Venus)

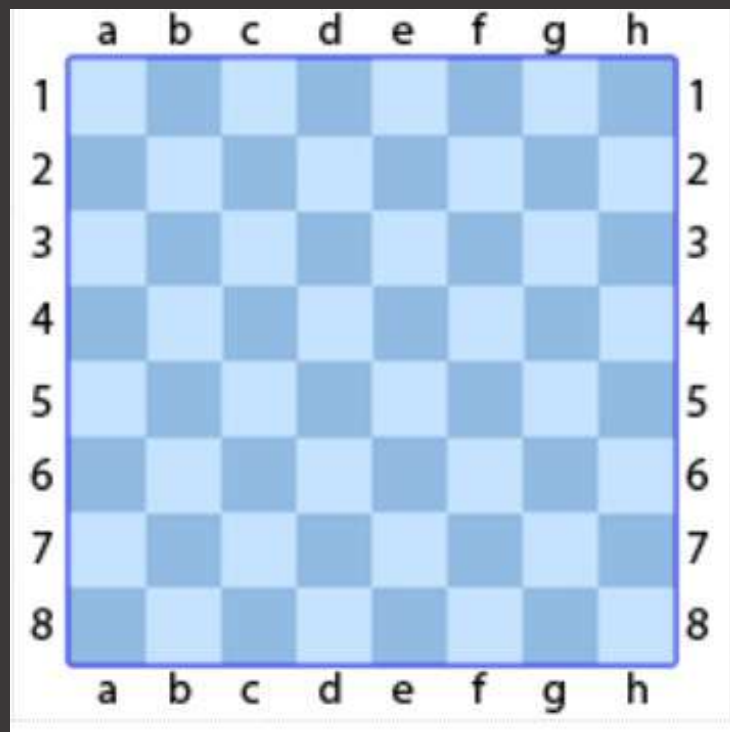
(Lady's Knight to three paces of the same Lady)



The Queen, seeing that Will so badly
Accompanies the Service it left,
Dispatched a great Disdain, with strange foresight,
To do outrage to the trap she perceived,
Mostly as she thought and saw to
Shoo with Disdain the other company
Of the Thought or Will she had made.
When an enemy feigns being abandoned
You must flee, for craft with craft is made.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says the Pawn can go no further without battle)



Adding a smart edict, it is ordered
That the Pawn, should it play against Pawn,
Must do battle body against body,
Otherwise he cannot go further.
But if he stands with heavy lance,
Ahead it goes, as the other one quits,
And let it take effort to be carried to better port.
Knights are reined back by honor,
But villains are stopped only by force.

Castellví (Mars)

(His King's Bishop moves to four houses of the other Queen's Knight and checks the King)



Thoughts that scold and mutter
As they see Will's desire and works
Importuning Honesty, they plot,
So as not to remain disfavored and needy;
These are the masters and apprentices
To end all contrary ills;
They are the sconces of the light of love.
One who, in hurriedness, would hunt
Will take nothing and surely fall and shame himself.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

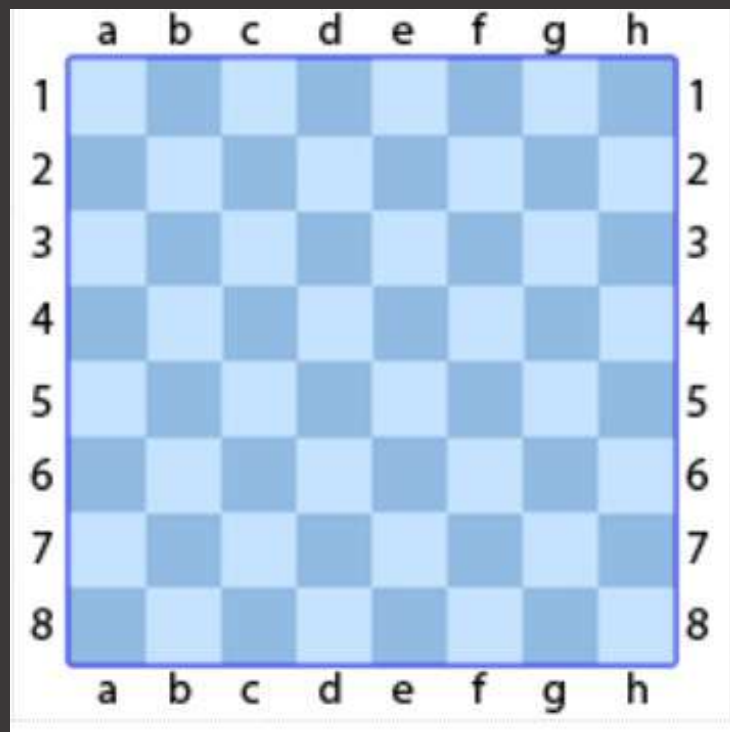
(His Lady's Knight takes the King's Bishop to four spaces from his line)



Outraged Gesture, seeing that Thought threatens
Honesty, forcing the strong to rise,
Delivers and is ready to die in the fray
Before an evil Thought is conceived of Honor;
Stating that, whenever a sinful crime is done,
It should not remove it one bit,
Since truth relieves it from guilt.
The saying goes: "He who bandages a hale finger,
Being not ill, can healthily unbandage it."

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(King cannot combat King directly)



Another ancient rule must be observed:

That King may never another King combat,

But rather each must remain near his men,

Because heads must never debate.

For others are hitting and defending

In their good order; the King must quietly

Command his hosts to overcome his foes.

A servile act, unworthy of royal pride,

Is like two rams locking their horns.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen takes the Lady's Knight, who was at four places from his seat, and checks)



Will, seeing that so many times
Cruel Disdain cruelly lies it fallow,
In order to put a stop to its charges,
Disdainfully condemns and banishes it,
While Honor can celebrate shortly
And confronting it, without a need for truce,
To one who has so besieged her.
One who thirsts for an ending must
Seek help by word, deed, thunder, lightning, and rain.

Vinyoles (Venus)

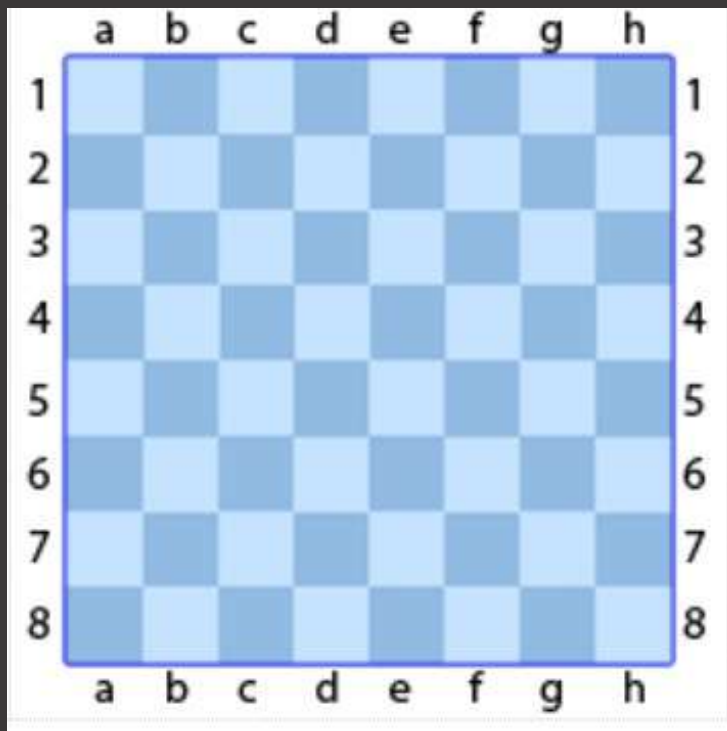
(His King is covered by his Knight, two places from the Queen)



The royal authority must never move,
Unless the situation is grave and necessary:
Thus Honor decides to enclose,
Disdaining the adversary's thrust.
Of such service this is pay,
For a Courtly Style could flourish
In such fortune, and turn quite against him.
In such dire straits, courtesy stops
Gravity and pomp, in its hurried flight.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says check mate is nigh)



If assailed by a reverse of fortune
Is the King, and all his power
With him, we want, by clear law,
To see him die in sorrow, as no clearing is expected;
For the royal crown and command
Presupposes excess of freedom
And, should he lose it, all hope is also lost.
Dignity is bonded to the soul
And honor always outlives life.

Castellví (Mars)

(Moves his Queen's Pawn to four places from the other Queen)



So that ever Beauty may be served,
Good Will, mindless of Outrage,
Commands with infinite love the passage
Of his Service, who is a graceful page.

And he, allowing all advantage,
With humble mien invites Courtesy
To take his life as taxation.

It is Humility that will lighten, purge, and placate
Two hearts together, even if quite diverse in nature.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

(His King's Pawn moves to take the Pawn of the other Lady)

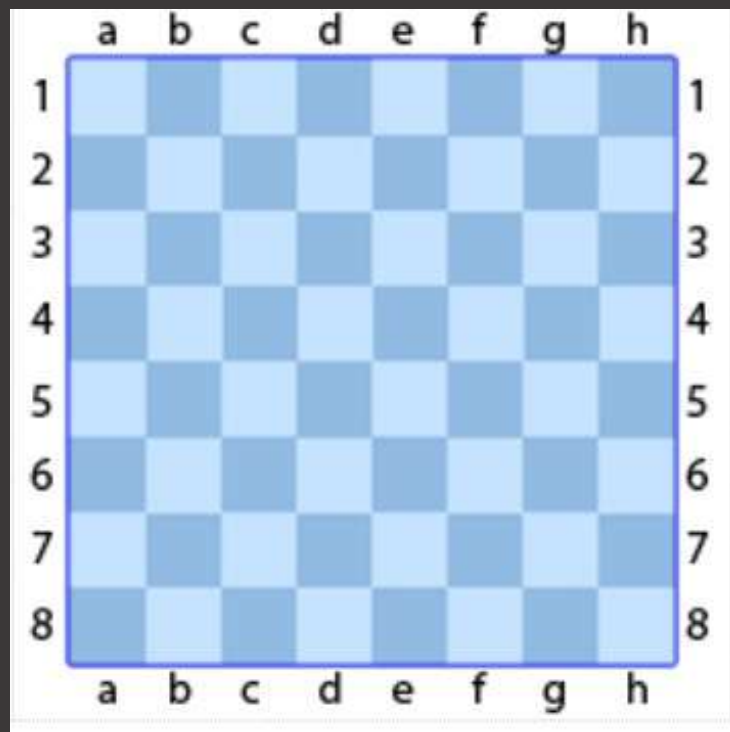


Courtesy has but a limp purse,
And will never turn away a gift
Or, if it did rebuff, his heart will ever pine
For appetite, which is dry and thirsts for rain.

And so, as soon as taken, it won't budge
And make a castle out of a wee shack;
But when it fails, he rues it more sternly.
One who takes must think of a refund
For, forcing ease, it will be forced to compensate.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Speaks about mate)



Lacking the King people to defend him,
As his vassals have protected him so badly,
He must then, as fortune declares,
Remain alone, as his people have all been taken;
A King without men cannot be thought a King;
But virtue will recompense with comfort
The cruel fate that has been pressed on him.
In evil and in good must ever fortune
By shared by King and men and all.

Castellví (Mars)

(Plays his Lady's Bishop to three houses from the King)



In order to adjust all his efforts in one,
Will will put its Thought
Before Reason, not caring a bit
If something is lost, like Services, or anything else;
Leaving the words and relying on the gloss
It will serve that time, just once,
Whom Honor has taken as spouse.
If a good Will paints an image of love,
It will never be undone, by neither life nor death.

Vinyoles (Venus)

(Plays his King's Bishop to three houses of the Lady)

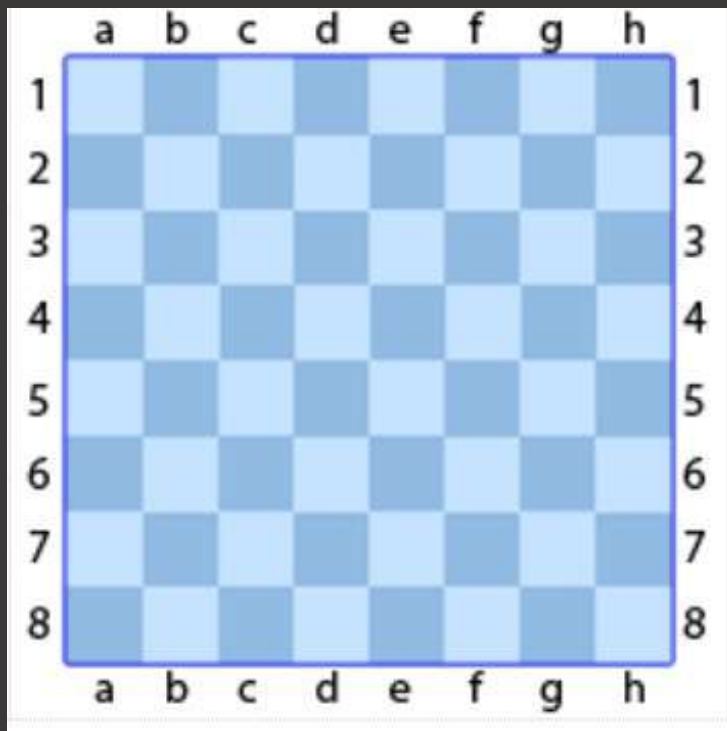


The Lady says, as her distinct voice sings:
“Be vigilant, Honor!” as she sees that the guard is kept
by the Eyes; reading the red ink of love
they keep alert, for the hour seems late;
in such a way and with such vigilance is guarded
Great Beauty, girding itself with such sash,
That her repute may be assured.

This combat is won in such way
That the victor flees and the loser waits.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(The common check)



Another corroborating decree advises
That should the King have no place to retreat,
Or anyone to cover him, as his enemy prospers
To the point that he might be fatally wounded,
As he dies, he'll give his body as payment,
And his people will fall, bannerless,
Into servitude, if he'd flatter his own life:
In the perils of the bitter battle
More is saved by the eye than covered by the shield.

Castellví (Mars)

(Plays his King's Rook to the house of the Lady)



Seeing Beauty shield herself so strongly,
Privation, as it moves the appetite, causes
Desire to free itself and come out
To take the place of Will.

He's prodded by wanting, but delight is his
Final cause, and if the end's delayed
His ardor may cease and take pause.
All movement moves with some defecte
Until arriving to its desired goal.

Vinyoles (Venus)

(His Lady moves to three houses from the King's Bishop)

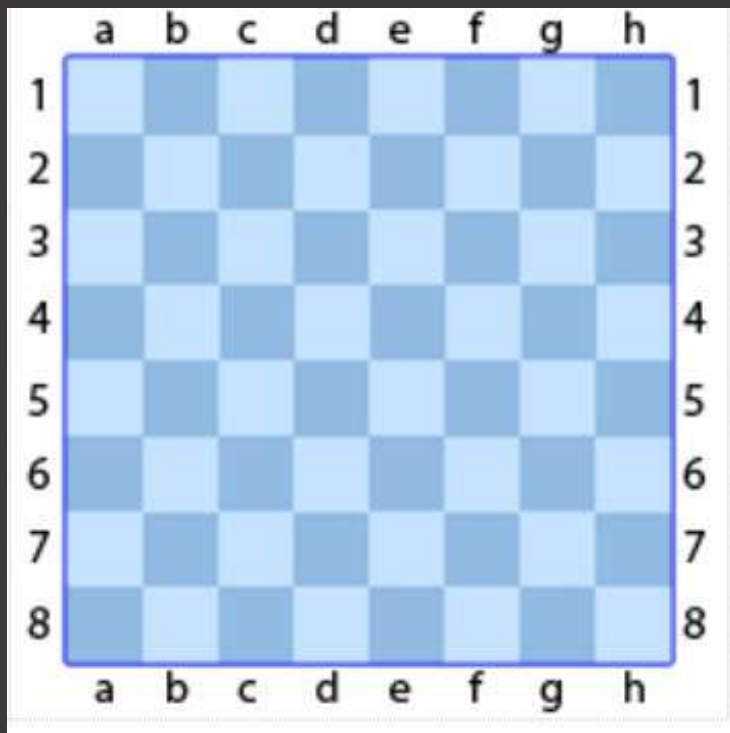


As Desire begins in his effect,
Let him come to the spot where Will
Used to be free, because a straight way
Could lead to where Beauty guides;
And Beauty, with light of grace,
Entered the third level of the Delightful Aspect
Of Honor, which always involves danger.

Beauty must cover itself with virtue
If it will find worship in the world.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(Says the Queen may move like all pieces, except the Knight)



But our game would now adorn itself
With a new and strange style for one who'd look,
Taking the orb, sceptre, and throne
Where, mostly, the Queen requests her honor.
Since it is said that she is worthier and stronger
She can quite well stroll the whole field,
But cannot bend, by neither fear nor wrath.
The haughtier you see your freedom
More should you beware of not having it captured.

Castellví (Mars)

(His King's Rook takes the Lady's Pawn)



Seeing that the Queen is not flinching,
The good Desire of Courtesy acts,
Inflamed with such vivid ardor
That the greenest forest might burn without truce;
For hope delivers him from toil,
A delight to revive one's forces,
And making Will the heir to final ugliness.
The fire of love calls for green wood:
If it is dry, the more it burns, the more it sours.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

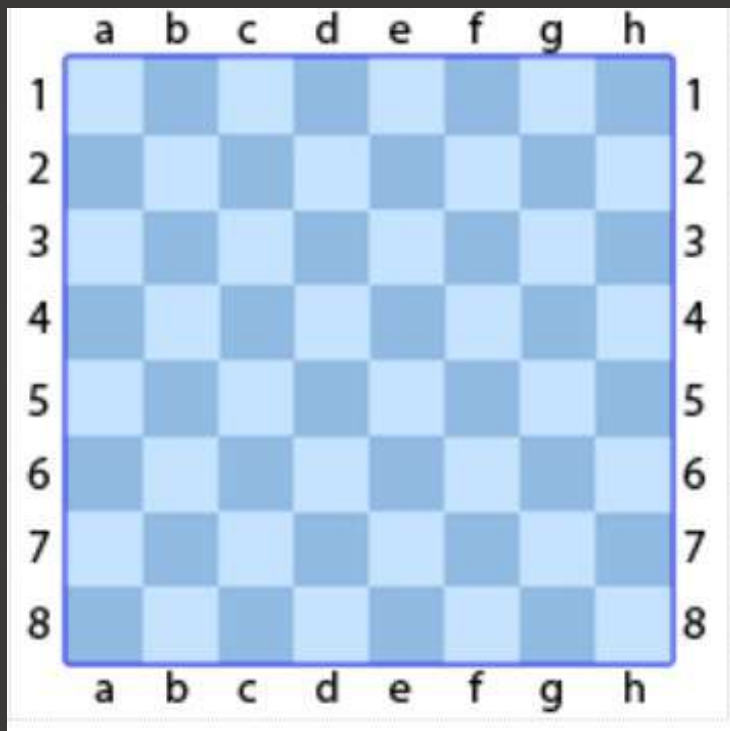
(Plays his Lady to three houses of the Knight of her King)



Beauty carrying effort as a standard
In order to punish the deceitful Services,
Moved to the front of disdainful Disdain:
She loses the greedy gain of Honor,
For the combats of love, if graceful,
Shoot their wares: and what rock
Will not give in to delightful acts?
Better a no from a chaste one
Than a yes coming from a vicious one.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(The Pawn cannot get to be Queen, nor there can be more than one Queen)



If the ancients, to increase their brood,
With no regard to law or justice,
From lowly blood and ordinary paste
Strive to create a thousand Queens out of malice,
The laws of amorous malice say
That the diamond more lawfully
Can be mounted and shine with great clarity.
The faithful lover falls but for one;
The ungrateful infidel does adore the idols.

Castellví (Mars)

(Plays his Queen's Bishop to four points of his King's Bishop)



Will, honoring the sweet eyes
And delicate gaze, as it looks, moves quickly;
Its Thought surmounts and remembers
By the right of those in whom living love sparkles;
By ardor, that takes and leaves, it distillates
Liquor from his to soften his heart
With the reports tumbling within his head.
Love is one that engages through the eyes,
But if it constrains, the part and the whole are menaced.

Vinyoles (Venus)

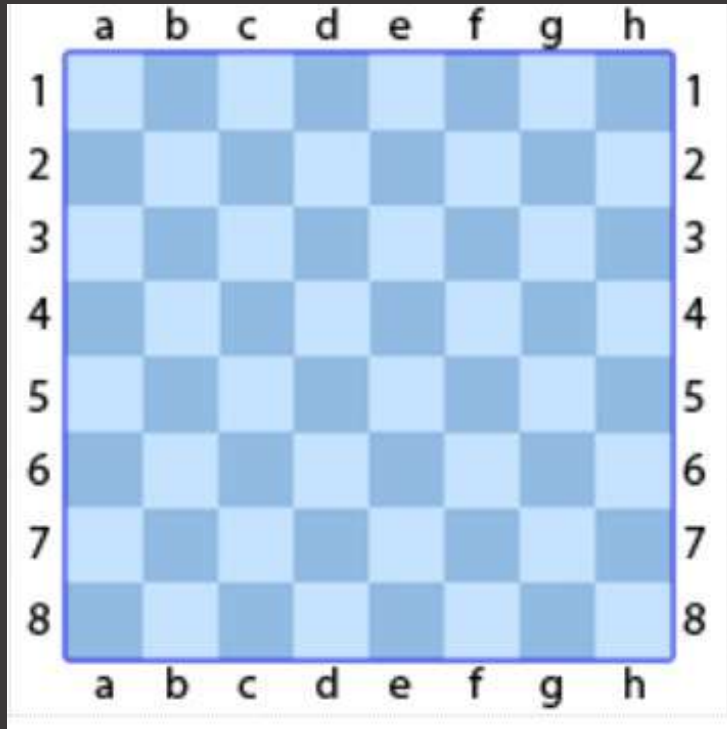
(His King's Bishop takes the Queen's Bishop at four spaces from the line of the King's Bishop)



Thought, always pursuing Sweet Regard,
Setting itself to attack the first,
Was taken and killed so it cannot bring any more damage
Nor turn his Will totally blind;
For one who tries so hard besieged by anxiety
To the point of bottling up the goods of Honor
And drowning his spirits right in front.
Honor will live as Will will allow;
Only this will Will bring good and bad.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(The Queens should not take themselves)



Since our style transports all power
From loving Kings to beloved Queens,
Just as between Kings it is not licit to strike.

So will the Queens behave;
Still they may be battled against by others,
And taken, should they lack an escort:
This is their only limitation.
And for this reason the law of our school says
That the Queen should never be alone.

Castellví (Mars)

(His Queen takes the other Queen's Knight to two places from said Queen, and checks the King)



Good Value finds no discomfort
From Thought spent in such an article,
But, with an effort from Desire, it chooses and fights
Against Disdain, the support of Honesty;
And Disdain, raising its voice clearer than beryl,
It now frets and trebles
Seeing Pleasure within its own *episticle*.
Perfection takes form from its end;
And thus the love of good gains shape.

Vinyoles (**Venus**)

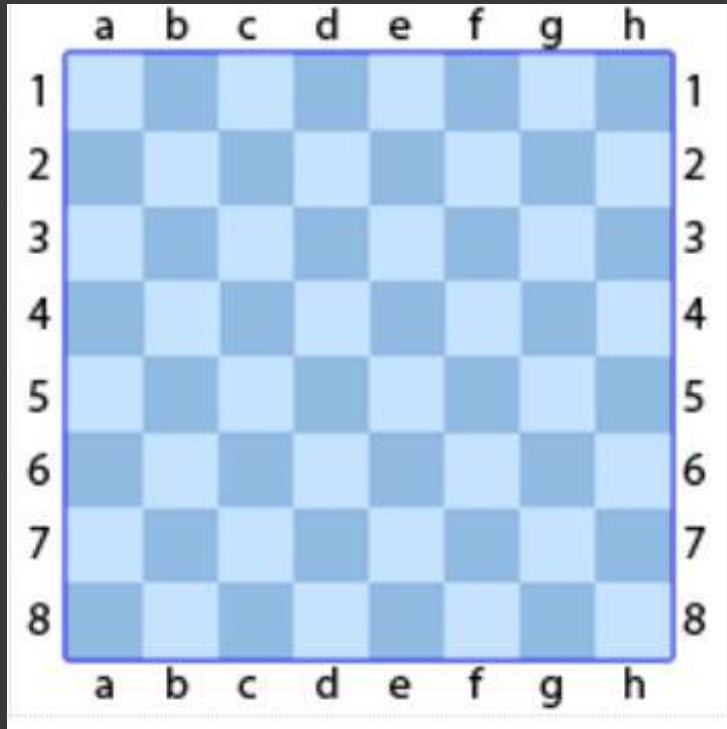
(His King moves to the house of his Bishop)



Honesty with such words, forms
Its great clamor, shouting: "O, lofty Venus!
Since your virtue cannot reform mine
And your help fails me at this juncture,
My poor Value loses its shine;
Seeing that yours does not conform itself with mine,
My Virtue as it flees leaps out."
If such frights are not good for Kings,
They are still natural and sustain its being.

Fenollar (**Mercury**)

(If the Queen is lost, so will the game)



Mercury says that now, as the Queens
Comprehend so, as they can all and command all,
If by misfortune their enemies take them,
Their armies retreat and flatten;
Therefore they should be guarded lest they be deceived
Because by fear they cannot defend themselves
Or just with their own effort they will neither thread nor
unthread. Shame and fear are virtues in the Lady,
As they are prevention in one, and contrary to great fame.

Castellví (Mars)

(Queen's check mate in the house of the other Queen)



Mars, the prince inflaming our hearts
So as to triumph in such high conquest,
Took Honor that claims to be above all things
And offered it quickly to good Value;
And this, climbing to the degree offered
By the beautiful Flower, with amorous flame
Sacrifices the Fruit of Love with great fanfare.
In the moon lies the point of this eclipse,
And to understand it is to understand the Apocalypse.

This may be the oldest recorded game of chess.

1.e4d5	2.exd5Qxd5	3.Nc3Qd8
4.Bc4Nf6	5.Nf3Bg4	6.h3Bxf3
7.Qxf3e6	8.Qxb7Nbd7	9.Nb5Rc8
10.Nxa7Nb6	11.Nxc8Nxc8	12.d4Nd6
13.Bb5+Nxb5	14.Qxb5+Nd7	15.d5exd5
16.Be3Bd6	17.Rd1Qf6	18.Rxd5Qg6
19.Bf4Bxf4	20.Qxd7+Kf8	21.Qd8#1-0

QUESTIONS?

Thanks for attention!

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