



「アリス」における否定表現 その1 : 否定と同意の公準

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「アリス」における否定表現—その1—

— 否定と同意の公準 —

小木野 —

Expressions of Negation in ‘Alice’ - Part one -

— Negation and Agreement Maxim —

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1. はじめに

言語によるコミュニケーションは参加者がお互いに協調しながら、それぞれが所有している情報をお互いに共有することによって、心の中にレポートを作り出すことを目標とする。そのためにお互いに相手が理解しやすいように、また相手に負担（迷惑）をかけないように、コミュニケーションを行なうことが基本的な前提となる。そのためにグライスを始めとする語用論において、コミュニケーションを成立させるためのいくつかの行動指針が提案されている。その一つに「同意の公準」(agreement maxim)がある (Leech 1983 : 132, トーマス 1995 : 180 ~ 181)。その内容は、(1) 自分と相手の間に同意ができるように最大限の努力をすること、(2) 自分と相手の間の不同意をできるだけ最小限にする努力をすることである (Leech 1983 : 132)。悪意のない通常のコミュニケーションにおいては、この「同意の公準」が準用されていることを前提として、我々は安心して言語活動を行なっているのである。しかしながら、「アリス」の物語の登場人物、特にアリスと他の登場人物はお互いに反目し合って、自分の考え（意見）を主張して相手をやり込めることである。「アリス」の登

場人物たちがお互いに反発し合うのは、アリスの住んでいたヴィクトリア朝の社会と不思議の国では、倫理観や価値観が異なるからである。作者ルイス・キャロルはこの二つの世界の相異を対比させるために、敢えて登場人物たちが、「同意の公準」を犯すことによって、普通とは異なる、いわゆる不思議の世界を作り出したのである。オックスフォード大学という閉ざされた社会に生活していたルイス・キャロルは、激しく流れ行くヴィクトリア朝英国に疎外感を持っていたと思われる。ルイス・キャロルはそのような自分を投影して、規則ずくめの、厳しい非人間的なヴィクトリア朝社会を批判するために、得意とする言語遊戯を用いて、「アリス」を創作したと考えられる（高橋康成1972、高山宏1981）。

ルイス・キャロルは数学者として、プラスやマイナス (+P or -P) などの概念に暁通しており、その学識を利用して「アリス」を制作した。その一つの表われが、「アリス」における否定表現 (No, Not, Never など) の多用である。この論文では、ただ単なる否定表現ではなく、主として前の内容や相手を否定するために用いられた否定表現について考察することにする。

2. 否定表現

(1) ... and when she had tried herself out with trying, the poor little thing sat down and cried.

‘Come, there’s **no** use in crying like that!’ said Alice to herself, rather sharply; ‘I advise you to leave off this minute!’ She generally gave herself very good advice, (though she very seldom followed it), and sometimes she scolded herself so severely as to bring tears into her eyes; and once she remembered trying to box her own eyes for having cheated herself in a game of croquet she was playing against herself, for this curious child was very fond of pretending to be two people. ‘But it’s **no** use now,’ thought poor Alice, ‘to pretend to be two people! Why, there’s hardly enough of me left to make *one* respectable person.’ (AAW 31)

(2) ... 'Oh, my poor little feet, I wonder who will put on your shoes and stockings for you now, dears? I'm sure I **shan't** be able! I shall be a great deal too far off to trouble myself about you: ... (AAW 33-34)

(3) ... 'Let me think: was I the same when I got up this morning? I almost think I can remember feeling a little different. But if I'm **not** the same, the next question is, who in the world am I? Ah, *that's* the great puzzle!'

'I'm sure I'm **not** Ada,' she said, 'for her hair goes in such long ringlets, and mine **doesn't** go in ringlets at all; and I'm sure I **can't** be Mabel, for I know all sort of things, and she, oh, knows such a very little!'

(AAW 36)

(4) 'I'm sure those are not the right words,' said poor Alice, and her eyes filled with tears again as she went on, 'I must be Mabel after all, and I shall have to go and live in that poky little house, and have next to no toys to play with, and oh! ever so many lessons to learn! **No**, I've made up my mind about it; if I'm Mabel, I'll stay down here! It'll be no use their putting their heads down and saying "Come up again, dear!" I shall only look up and say "Who am I then? Tell me that first, and then, if I like being that person, I'll come up: if **not**, I'll stay down here till I'm somebody else" - ... (AAW 37)

(5) 'I beg your pardon!' said the Mouse, frowning, but very politely: 'Did you speak?'

'**Not** I !' said the Lory hastily. (AAW 44)

(6) 'In that case,' said the Dodo solemnly, rising to its feet, 'I move that the meeting adjourn, for the immediate adoption of more energetic remedies - '

'Speak English!' said the Eaglet. 'I **don't** know the meaning of half those long words, and, what's more, I **don't** believe you do either!' ...

(AAW 45)

(7) 'I beg your pardon,' said Alice very humbly: 'you had got to the fifth bend, I think?'

'I had **not!**' cried the Mouse, sharply and very angrily. (AAW 50)

(8) 'But then,' thought Alice, 'shall I *never* get any older than I am now? That'll be a comfort, one way - never to be an old woman - but then - always to have lessons to learn ! Oh, I **shouldn't** like *that!*' (AAW 55)

(9) ... Alice heard it say to itself 'Then I'll go round and get in at the window.'

'*That you won't!*' thought Alice, and, after waiting till she fancied she heard the Rabbit just under the window, she suddenly spread out her hand, and made a snatch in the air. (AAW 56)

(10) ... 'Where's the other ladder? - Why, I hadn't to bring but one; Bill's got the other - Bill! Fetch it here, lad! - Here, put 'em up at this corner - **No**, tie 'em together first - they don't reach half high enough yet - oh! They'll do well enough; don't be particular - Here, Bill! Catch hold of this rope - Will the roof bear? - Mind that loose slate - Oh, it's coming down! Heads below!' (a loud crash) - 'Now, who did that? - It was Bill, I fancy - Who's to go down the chimney? - **Nay**, I **shan't!** *You* do it - *That I won't*, then - Bill's to go down Here, Bill! The master says you're to go down the chimney!' (AAW 58)

(11) 'What do you mean by that?' said the Caterpillar sternly. Explain yourself!'

'I **can't** explain *myself*, I'm afraid, sir,' said Alice, 'because I'm not myself, you see.'

'I **don't** see,' said the Caterpillar.

'I'm afraid I **can't** put it more clearly,' Alice replied very politely, 'for I **can't** understand it myself to begin with; and being so many different

sizes in a day is very confusing.'

'It **isn't**,' said the Caterpillar.

'Well, perhaps you **haven't** found it so yet,' said Alice; but when you have to turn into a chrysalis - you will some day, you know - and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you'll feel it a little queer, won't you?'

'**Not** a bit,' said the Caterpillar. (AAW 66)

(12) 'Keep your temper,' said the Caterpillar.

'Is that all?' said Alice, swallowing down her anger as well as she could.

'**No**,' said the Caterpillar. (AAW 67)

(13) The Caterpillar was the first to speak.

'What size do you want to be?' it asked.

'Oh, I'm **not** particular as to size,' Alice hastily replied; 'only one doesn't like changing so often, you know.'

'I **don't** know,' said the Caterpillar. (AAW 71)

(14) 'Serpent!' screamed the Pigeon.

'I'm **not** a serpent!' said Alice indignantly. 'Let me alone!'

'Serpent, I say again!' repeated the Pigeon, but in a more subdued tone, and added with a kind of sob, 'I've tried every way, and nothing seems to suit them!'

'I **haven't** the least idea what you're talking about,' said Alice.

(AAW 74)

(15) 'And just as I'd taken the highest tree in the wood,' continued the Pigeon, raising its voice to a shriek, 'and just as I was thinking I should be free of them at last, they must needs come wriggling down from the sky! Ugh, serpent!'

'But I'm **not** a serpent, I tell you!' said Alice. 'I'm a - I'm a - '

...

'... **No, no!** You're a serpent; and there's no use denying it. I suppose you'll be telling me next that you never tasted an egg!'

'I have tasted eggs, certainly,' said Alice, who was a very truthful child; 'but little girls eat eggs quite as much as serpents do, you know.'

'I **don't** believe it,' said the Pigeon; but if they do, why then they're a kind of serpent, that's all I can say.' (AAW 75)

(16) ... 'You're looking for eggs, I know *that* well enough; and what does it matter to me whether you're a little girl or a serpent?'

'It matters a good deal to me,' said Alice hastily; 'but I'm **not** looking for eggs, as it happens; and if I was, I **shouldn't** want *yours*: I don't like them raw.' (AAW 75-76)

(17) 'I didn't know that Cheshire cats always grinned; in fact, I didn't know that cats *could* grin.'

'They all can,' said the Duchess; 'and most of 'em do.'

'I **don't** know of any that do,' Alice said very politely, feeling quite pleased to have got into a conversation.

'You **don't** know much,' said the Duchess; 'and that's a fact.'

(AAW 82-83)

(18) 'If everybody minded their own business,' the Duchess said in a hoarse growl, 'the world would go round a deal faster than it does.'

'Which would **not** be an advantage,' said Alice, who felt very glad to get an opportunity of showing off a little of her knowledge....

(AAW 83)

(19) Alice glanced rather anxiously at the cook, to see if she meant to take the hint; but the cook was busily stirring the soup, and seemed not to be listening, so she went on again: 'Twenty-four hours, I *think*; or is it twelve? I -'

‘Oh, don’t bother me,’ said the Duchess; ‘I **never** could abide figures!’...

(AAW 83-84)

(20) ... ‘If I don’t take this child away with me,’ thought Alice, ‘they’re sure to kill it in a day or two: wouldn’t it be murder to leave it behind?’ She said the last words out loud, and the little thing grunted in reply (it had left off sneezing by this time). ‘**Don’t** grunt,’ said Alice; ‘that’s **not** at all a proper way of expressing yourself.’

(AAW 85)

(21) ‘... But perhaps it was only sobbing,’ she thought, and looked into its eyes again, to see if there were any tears.

No, there were **no** tears. ‘If you’re going to turn into a pig, my dear,’ said Alice, seriously, ‘I’ll have nothing more to do with you. Mind now!’...

(AAW 85-86)

(22) ‘That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,’ said the Cat.

‘I **don’t** much care where -’ said Alice.

‘Then it **doesn’t** matter which way you go,’ said the Cat. (AAW 87)

(23) ‘In *that* direction,’ the Cat said, waving its right paw round, ‘lives a Hatter: and in *that* direction,’ waving the other paw, ‘lives a March Hare. Visit either you like: they’re both mad.’

‘But I **don’t** want to go among mad people,’ Alice remarked.

‘Oh, you **can’t** help that,’ said the Cat: ‘we’re all mad here. I’m mad. You’re mad.’

‘How do you know I’m mad?’ said Alice.

‘You must be,’ said the Cat, ‘or you wouldn’t have come here.’

Alice **didn’t** think that proved it at all; however, she went on ‘And how do you know that you’re mad?’

‘To begin with,’ said the Cat, ‘a dog’s not mad. You grant that?’

‘I suppose so,’ said Alice.

‘Well, then,’ the Cat went on, ‘you see, a dog growls when it’s angry,

and wags its tail when it's pleased. Now I growl when I'm pleased, and wag my tail when I'm angry. Therefore I'm mad.'

'I call it purring, **not** growling,' said Alice.

'Call it what you like,' said the Cat. 'Do you play croquet with the Queen to-day?'

'I should like it very much,' said Alice, 'but I **haven't** been invited yet.'

(AAW 88-89)

24) 'Have some wine,' the March Hare said in an encouraging tone.

Alice looked all round the table, but there was nothing on it but tea.

'I **don't** see any wine,' she remarked.

'There **isn't** any,' said the March Hare.

'Then it **wasn't** very civil of you to offer it,' said Alice angrily.

'It **wasn't** very civil of you to sit down without being invited,' said the March Hare.

'I **don't** know it was *your* table,' said Alice; 'it's laid for a great many more than three.'

(AAW 92)

25) 'Your hair wants cutting,' said the Hatter. He had been looking at Alice for some time with great curiosity, and this was his first speech.

'You should learn **not** to make personal remarks,' Alice said with some severity; 'it's very rude.'

(AAW 93)

26) 'Then you should say what you mean,' the March Hare went on.

'I do,' Alice hastily replied; 'at least - at least I mean what I say - that's the same thing, you know.'

'**Not** the same thing a bit!' said the Hatter...

(AAW 94)

27) 'Why should it?' muttered the Hatter. 'Does *your* watch tell you what year it is?'

'Of course **not**,' Alice replied very readily; 'but that's because it stays the same year for such a long time together.'

(AAW 95)

28) 'Have you guessed the riddle yet?' the Hatter said, turning to Alice again.

'No, I give it up,' Alice replied: 'what's the answer?'

'I **haven't** the slightest idea,' said the Hatter.

'Nor I,' said the March Hare.

Alice sighed wearily. 'I think you might do something better with the time,' she said, 'than waste it in asking riddles that have no answers'

'If you knew Time as well as I do,' said the Hatter, 'you **wouldn't** talk about wasting it. It's him.'

'I **don't** know what you mean,' said Alice.

'Of course you don't!' the Hatter said, tossing his head contemptuously. 'I dare say you never even spoke to Time!'

'Perhaps not,' Alice cautiously replied: 'but I know I have to beat time when I learn music.' (AAW 96)

29) 'Is that the way *you* manage?' Alice asked.

The Hatter shook his head mournfully. '**Not I!**' he replied....

(AAW 97)

30) 'Suppose we change the subject,' the March Hare interrupted, yawning.

'I'm getting tired of this. I vote the young lady tells us a story.'

'I'm afraid I **don't** know one,' said Alice, rather alarmed at the proposal.

'Then the Dormouse shall!' they both cried. 'Wake up, the Dormouse!' And they pinched it on both sides at once.

The Dormouse slowly opened his eyes. 'I **wasn't** asleep,' he said in a hoarse, feeble voice: 'I heard every word you fellows were saying.'

(AAW 98-99)

31) 'They lived on treacle,' said the Dormouse, after thinking a minute or two.

‘They **couldn’t** have done that, you know,’ Alice gently remarked; ‘they’d have been ill.’ (AAW 99)

③2 ‘Take some more tea,’ the March Hare said to Alice, very earnestly.

‘I’ve had **nothing** yet,’ Alice replied in an offended tone, ‘so I **can’t** take more.’

‘You mean you can’t take *less*,’ said the Hatter: ‘it’s very easy to take *more* than nothing.’

‘**Nobody** asked *your* opinion,’ said Alice.

‘Who’s making personal remarks now?’ the Hatter asked triumphantly.

Alice did not quite know what to say to this: so she helped herself to some tea and bread-and-butter, and then turned to the Dormouse, and repeated her question. ‘Why did they live at the bottom of a well?’

The Dormouse again took a minute or two to think about it, and then said, ‘It was a treacle-well.’

‘There’s **no** such thing!’ Alice was beginning very angrily, but the Hatter and the March Hare went ‘Sh! Sh!’ and the Dormouse sulkily remarked, ‘If you can’t be civil, you’d better finish the story for yourself.’

‘**No**, please go on!’ Alice said very humbly; ‘I won’t interrupt again. I dare say there may be *one*.’

‘One, indeed!’ said the Dormouse indignantly. However, he consented to go on. ‘And so these three little sisters - they were learning to draw, you know -’

‘What did they draw?’ said Alice, quite forgetting her promise.

‘Treacle,’ said the Dormouse, without considering at all this time. ‘I want a clean cup,’ interrupted the Hatter: ‘let’s all move one place on.’

...

Alice did not wish to offend the Dormouse again, so she began very cautiously: 'But I **don't** understand. Where did they draw the treacle from?'

'You can draw water out of a water-well,' said the Hatter; 'so I should think you could draw treacle out of a treacle-well - eh, stupid?'

'But they were in the well,' Alice said to the Dormouse, **not** choosing to notice this last remark.

...

'They were learning to draw,' the Dormouse went on, yawning and rubbing its eyes, for it was getting very sleepy: 'and they drew all manner of things - everything that begins with an M -'

'Why with an M? said Alice.

'Why **not**?' said the March Hare.

Alice was silent. (AAW 99-101)

(33) '... did you ever see such a thing as a drawing of a muchness?'

'Really, now you ask me,' said Alice, very much confused, 'I **don't** think -'

'Then you **shouldn't** talk,' said the Hatter. (AAW 102)

(34) ... 'Look out now, Five! Don't go splashing paint over me like that!'

'I **couldn't** help it,' said Five in a sulky tone; 'Seven jogged my elbow.'

On which Seven looked up and said, 'That's right, Five! Always lay the blame on others!'

'*You'd* better **not** talk!' said Five. 'I heard the Queen say only yesterday you deserved to be beheaded!'

'What for?' said the one who had spoken first.

'That's **none** of *your* business, Two!' said Seven.

'Yes it *is* his business,!' said Five, 'and I'll tell him - it was for bringing

the cook tulip-roots instead of onions.’ (AAW 104)

③5 ‘Idiot!’ said the Queen, tossing her head impatiently; and, turning to Alice, she went on, ‘What’s your name, child?’

‘My name is Alice, so please your Majesty,’ said Alice very politely; but she added, to herself, ‘Why, they’re only a pack of cards, after all. I **needn’t** be afraid of them!’

‘And who are *these*?’ said the Queen, pointing to the three gardeners who were lying round the rose-tree; for, you see, as they were lying on their faces, and the pattern on their backs was the same as the rest of the pack, she **could not** tell whether they were gardeners, or soldiers, or courtiers, or three of her own children.

‘How should I know?’ said Alice, surprised at her own courage. ‘It’s **no** business of *mine*.’

The Queen turned crimson with fury, and, after glaring at her for a moment like a wild beast, screamed ‘Off with her head! Off -’

‘**Nonsense!**’ said Alice, very loudly and decidedly, and the Queen was silent. (AAW 107)

③6 ‘*I see!*’ said the Queen, who had meanwhile been examining the roses. ‘Off with their heads!’ and the procession moved on, three of the soldiers remaining behind to execute the unfortunate gardeners, who ran to Alice for protection.

‘You **shan’t** be beheaded!’ said Alice, and she put them in a large flower-pot that stood near... (AAW 109)

③7 ‘Hush! Hush!!’ said the Rabbit in a low, hurried tone. He looked anxiously over his shoulder as he spoke, and then raised himself upon tiptoe, put his mouth close to her ear, and whispered ‘She’s under sentence of execution.’

‘What for?’ said Alice.

‘Did you say “What a pity!”’ the Rabbit asked.

‘**No**, I **didn’t**,’ said Alice: ‘I **don’t** think it’s at all a pity. I said “What for?”’ (AAW 109-110)

(38) ‘How do you like the Queen?’ said the Cat in a low voice.

‘**Not** at all,’ said Alice: ‘she’s so extremely -’ Just then she noticed that the Queen was close behind her, listening: (AAW 113)

(39) The executioner’s argument was, that you couldn’t cut off a head unless there was a body to cut it off from: that he had never had to do such a thing before, and he wasn’t going to begin at *his* time of life.

The King’s argument was, that anything that had a head could be beheaded, and that you **weren’t** to talk nonsense. (AAW 116)

(40) ‘... I can’t tell you just now what the moral of that is, but I shall remember it in a bit.’

‘Perhaps it **hasn’t** one,’ Alice ventured to remark. (AAW 117-118)

(41) ‘Very true,’ said the Duchess: ‘flamingoes and mustard both bite. And the moral of that is - “Birds of a feather flock together.”’

‘Only mustard **isn’t** a bird,’ Alice remarked. (AAW 119)

(42) Then the Queen left off, quite out of breath, and said to Alice, ‘Have you seen the Mock Turtle yet?’

‘**No**,’ said Alice. ‘I **don’t** even know what a Mock Turtle is.’

(AAW 122)

(43) ‘Yes, we went to school in the sea, though you mayn’t believe it -’

‘I **never** said I didn’t!’ interrupted Alice.

‘You did,’ said the Mock Turtle.

‘Hold your tongue!’ added the Gryphon, before Alice could speak again. The Mock Turtle went on.

‘We had the best of educations - in fact, we went to school every day -’

'I've been to a day-school, too,' said Alice; 'you **needn't** be so proud as all that.'

'With extras?' asked the Mock Turtle a little anxiously.

'Yes,' said Alice, 'we learned French and music.'

'And washing?' said the Mock Turtle.

'Certainly **not!**' said Alice indignantly.

'Ah! then yours **wasn't** a really good school,' said the Mock Turtle in a tone of great relief. 'Now at *ours* they had at the end of the bill, "French, music, *and washing* - extra."'

'You **couldn't** have wanted it much,' said Alice; 'living at the bottom of the sea.'

'I **couldn't** afford to learn it,' said the Mock Turtle with a sigh. 'I only took the regular course.'

'What was that?' inquired Alice.

'Reeling and Writhing, of course, to begin with,' the Mock Turtle replied; 'and then the different branches of Arithmetic - Ambition, Distraction, Uglification, and Derision.'

'I **never** heard of "Uglification,"' Alice ventured to say. 'What is it?'

(AAW 126-127)

(44) 'What was *that* like?' said Alice.

'Well, I **can't** show it you myself,' the Mock Turtle said: 'I'm too stiff. And the Gryphon never learnt it.'

'**Hadn't** time,' said the Gryphon: 'I went to the Classical master, though. He was an old crab, *he* was.'

'I **never** went to him,' the Mock Turtle said with a sigh: 'he taught Laughing and Grief, they used to say.'

(AAW 127-128)

(45) 'Yes,' said Alice, 'I've often seen them at dinn -' she checked herself hastily.

‘I **don’t** know where Dinn may be,’ said the Mock Turtle, ‘but if you’ve seen them so often, of course you know what they’re like.’

(AAW 132-133)

(46) ‘I can tell you more than that, if you like,’ said the Gryphon. ‘Do you know why it’s called a whiting?’

‘I **never** thought about it,’ said Alice. ‘Why?’

‘*It does the boots and shoes,*’ the Gryphon replied very solemnly.

(AAW 133)

(47) ‘Explain all that,’ said the Mock Turtle.

‘**No, No!**’ The adventures first,’ said the Gryphon in an impatient tone: ‘explanations take such a dreadful time.’

(AAW 135)

(48) ‘I should like to have it explained,’ said the Mock Turtle.

‘She **can’t** explain it,’ said the Gryphon hastily. ‘Go on with the next verse.’

(AAW 137)

(49) The twelve jurors were all writing very busily on slates. ‘What are they doing?’ Alice whispered to the Gryphon. ‘They **can’t** have anything to put down yet, before the trial’s begun.’

(AAW 141)

(50) One of the jurors had a pencil that squeaked. This of course, Alice **could not** stand, and she went round the court and got behind him, and very soon found an opportunity of taking it away. She did it so quickly that the poor little juror (it was Bill, the Lizard) **could not** make out at all what had become of it; ...

(AAW 141-142)

(51) ‘Consider your verdict,’ the King said to the jury.

‘**Not yet, not yet!**’ the Rabbit hastily interrupted. ‘There’s a great deal to come before that!’

(AAW 143)

(52) ‘Take off your hat,’ the King said to Hatter.

‘It **isn’t** mine,’ said the Hatter.

‘*Stolen!*’ the King exclaimed, turning to the jury, who instantly made

a memorandum of the fact.

‘I keep them to sell,’ the Hatter added as an explanation: ‘I’ve **none** of my own. I’m a hatter.’ (AAW 143-144)

53) ‘Give your evidence,’ said the King; ‘and don’t be nervous, or I’ll have you executed on the spot.’

This **did not** seem to encourage the witness at all: ... (AAW 144)

54) ‘I wish you wouldn’t squeeze so,’ said the Dormouse, who was sitting next to her. ‘I can hardly breathe.’

‘I **can’t** help it,’ said Alice very meekly: ‘I’m growing.’

‘You’ve **no** right to grow *here*,’ said the Dormouse.

‘**Don’t** talk nonsense,’ said Alice more boldly: ‘you know you’re growing too.’

‘Yes, but *I* grow at a reasonable pace,’ said the Dormouse: ‘**not** in that ridiculous fashion.’ And he got up very sulkily and crossed over to the other side of the court. (AAW 144-145)

55) ‘I’m a poor man,’ the Hatter went on, ‘and most things twinkled after that - only the March Hare said - ’

‘I **didn’t!**’ the March Hare interrupted in a great hurry. (AAW 146)

56) ‘But what did the Dormouse say?’ one of the jury asked.

‘That I **can’t** remember,’ said the Hatter. (AAW 146)

57) ‘If that’s all you know about it, you may stand down,’ continued the King.

‘I **can’t** go no lower,’ said the Hatter: ‘I’m on the floor, as it is.’

(AAW 147)

58) ‘Give your evidence,’ said the King.

‘**Shan’t,**’ said the cook. (AAW 148)

59) ‘What do you know about this business?’ the King said to Alice.

‘**Nothing,**’ said Alice.

‘Nothing *whatever?*’ persisted the King.

‘**Nothing** whatever,’ said Alice. (AAW 152)

(60) ‘Who is it directed to?’ said the King, ‘unless it was written to nobody, which isn’t usual, you know.’

‘It **isn’t** directed at all, said the White Rabbit; ‘in fact, there’s **nothing** written on the outside.’... (AAW 153)

(61) ‘Are they in the prisoner’s handwriting?’ asked another of the jury-men.

‘**No**, they’re **not**,’ said the White Rabbit, ‘and that’s the queerest thing about it.’ (The jury all looked puzzled.)

‘He must have imitated somebody else’s hand,’ said the King. (The jury all brightened up again.)

‘Please your Majesty,’ said the Knave, ‘I **didn’t** write it, and they **can’t** prove I did: there’s **no** name signed at the end.’ (AAW 153-154)

(62) ‘That proves his guilt,’ said the Queen.

‘It proves **nothing** of the sort!’ said Alice. ‘Why, you **don’t** even know what they’re about!’ (AAW 154)

(63) ‘It’s a pun!’ the King added in an offended tone, and everybody laughed. ‘Let the jury consider their verdict,’ the King said, for about the twentieth time that day.

‘**No, No!**’ said the Queen. ‘Sentence first - verdict afterwards.’

‘Stuff and **nonsense!**’ said Alice loudly. ‘The idea of having the sentence first!’

‘Hold your tongue!’ said the queen, turning purple.

‘I **won’t!**’ said Alice. (AAW 157)

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