

'Mine is a long and a sad tale!' said the Mouse, turning to Alice, and sighing.

'It *is* a long tail, certainly,' said Alice, looking down with wonder at the Mouse's tail; 'but why do you call it sad?' And she kept on puzzling about it while the Mouse was speaking, so that her idea of the tale was something like this:—

'Fury said to

a mouse, That

he met in the

house, "Let

us both go

to law: *I*

will prose-

cute *you*.—

Come, I'll

take no de-

cid. We

must have

the trial

For really

this morn-

ing I've

in

hid

mouse to

the cur,

"Such a

trial, dear

sir, With

no jury

or judge,

would

be wast-

ing our

breath."

"I'll be

judge,

I'll be

jury,"

said

cun-

ning

old

Fury:

"I'll

try

the

whole

cause,

and

con-

denn

you to

death".

# The materiality of reading

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