

to re-open the question would be to stultify themselves. We know that "wretches sometimes hang, that jurymen may dine," but it appears that a hundred Arctic heroes may perish rather than certain Admiralty lords shall be known to stultify themselves. We do not see why they should be so coy of stultifying themselves—they have done it often enough. Could not these naval authorities have rewarded Dr. Rae in some way which left them open to the admission of new evidence? We know that petty parochial and other committees frequently perplex their muddy brains, by voting something to-day as absolute, which the next day shows them to be most undeterminate and transient; but their having voted it absolute, absolute it must remain—they cannot "stultify" themselves. The hopeless imbeciles cannot see that there is no stultification so complete and so contemptible, as that of persisting in error after you know it to be error. A Transatlantic thinker, who is an authority in the old world as well as the new, has well said that "a weak consistency is the disease of little minds." This