

advance brought him within ninety-seven geographical miles of the Pole.

In 1911 Captain Scott again set out in the *Discovery* for the Antarctic; and again he stated plainly that his mission was not so much a "dash to the South Pole" and a speedy return to civilization, as an extended investigation of the seas and lands surrounding that point.

There can, of course, be no doubt that had it been compatible with the avowed purpose of his voyage, Captain Scott would have made an effort to get to the Pole; but he has been out-distanced in the race towards that objective by a brave and daring Norwegian, Captain Amundsen, who, according to his own narrative, reached the South Pole on December 14th to 17th, 1911.

The Norwegian has achieved a remarkable triumph, and none will grudge him the full honour that is his due; but still it remains true—and Captain Amundsen will be the first to acknowledge the fact—that the way to the South Pole was paved by the earlier enterprise of Captain Scott, to whom all praise must be given for his pioneer work during the ten years preceding the ultimate triumph of the brave Norwegian.

It is more than strange that within two years of the attainment of the North Pole, the South Pole also should have been reached; but it by no means follows that with the achieve-