



THE truth at last. Dr. Cook did not discover the Pole. This startling decision was reached at the open session of the Union Literary Society, held in Alumni Hall on Feb. 19th. The Government, knowing that the public at large were not satisfied with the findings of the Copenhagen University, appointed a learned commissioner to thoroughly investigate and decide upon the rival claims of Cook and Peary. The public were graciously permitted to be present at the investigation and large numbers took full advantage of their privileges.

The proceedings were full of interest. Dr. Cook, whose photos are evidently misleading, arrived early and gave a graphic account of his brilliant dash to the Pole. The central point of his evidence was convincing: "He was the only, first, original, indisputable discoverer of the Pole." Somewhat staggered by this rather positive statement, the learned scientists asked him to retire. After a brief interval Commodore Peary, accompanied by a black servant (probably his Gum-drop), made his appearance. This settled the question. The ferocity of his bearing, combined with the unknown designs of his attendant, made only one solution possible. The Commission trembled. No body of men cares to be branded as liars. Besides, Peary brought the Pole. Cook had only produced a short piece of it. After a feeble attempt at examining the evidence, brightened occasionally by the illuminating remark: "It's a scientific fact" (a remark which, by the way, the Commission had evidently learned by rote), the awards were made. Commodore Peary received a tin medal, and Dr. Cook, a lemon. It was interesting to notice the weight which was laid upon orthodoxy, much valuable evidence being discredited because it had a flavor of higher criticism.

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"Say, who is dem guys, anyhow?" queried a red cap as the big doors of the Union Station clanged behind a bunch of happy