

Regent's Sounds, Cornwallis, Byam-Martin, and Melville islands, to which has been given the name of *Parry Archipelago*. In this short voyage he collected as many novel results as his successors have done in the last half-century. He, indeed, was the true pioneer of geographical enterprise and discovery in polar waters.

On Byam Island he ascertained the existence of some ruins of the ancient habitations of the Eskimos.

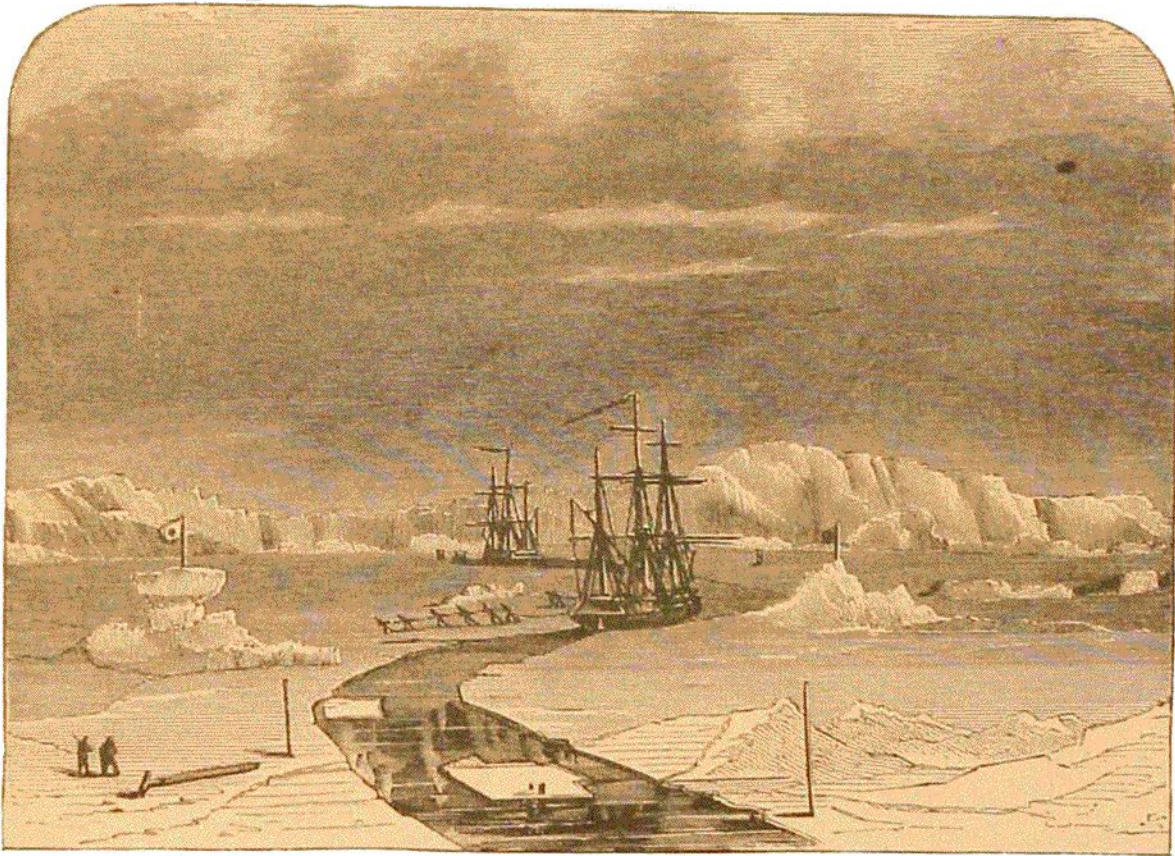


FIG. 236. — TRACK OF THE SHIPS "HECLA" AND "GRIPER," CUT THROUGH THE ICE BY THEIR CREWS, IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF MELVILLE ISLAND.

Parry passed the winter on Melville Island. To reach the anchorage he had selected in Winter Bay, his men were compelled to saw through the ice a channel of a league in length; a task which, for three days, occupied all hands. Scarcely were the two ships moored in their commodious haven, before the thermometer sank to 18° below zero. The boats, cables, and sails, were carried ashore. The topmasts and yards were struck; and over the decks was built a roof of timber, which, being covered with thick felt, afforded an excellent shelter against the wind and snow. Every precaution that scientific