

His first expedition was made in the same year that Parry first ventured into the frozen seas. He then explored the Arctic coast of North America, and discovered the source of the Coppermine River, which he descended to its junction with the Polar waters. He proceeded as far north as latitude $68\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, to Point Turnagain. In his return journey, overland, he and his party suffered the severest hardships, and were reduced to gaunt and miserable spectres when they finally gained the welcome asylum of an English settlement.



FIG. 240. —AN ESKIMO VILLAGE OF SNOW-HUTS.

In 1825 Franklin undertook a second expedition, and surveyed the Arctic coast for an extent of 500 leagues.

It was not until 1845 that he sailed on his third voyage, in the ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, with an able lieutenant in the person of Captain F. R. M. Crozier, and two crews consisting of one hundred and thirty-seven picked seamen. Both vessels were fitted with the screw-propeller, and supplied with three years' provisions, as well as every appliance which science could suggest.

Franklin and his followers were last seen alive by some whalers in Baffin's Bay, in the month of July 1845.