

Parry's fourth and last voyage was commenced in April 1826, when he was accompanied by Sir James Ross. On leaving Table Island, north of Spitzbergen, he placed his crew in a couple of boat-sledges, the *Enterprise* and *Endeavour*; one commanded by himself, the other by Ross. It required, we are told,\* a zeal little short of enthusiasm to undergo, voluntarily, the toil of this expedition. When the adventurers arrived at a pool of water in the ice, they were then obliged to launch their boats, and embark. On reaching the opposite side, their boats were then to be hauled up the steep and dangerous cliffs of ice, their lading having first been removed.

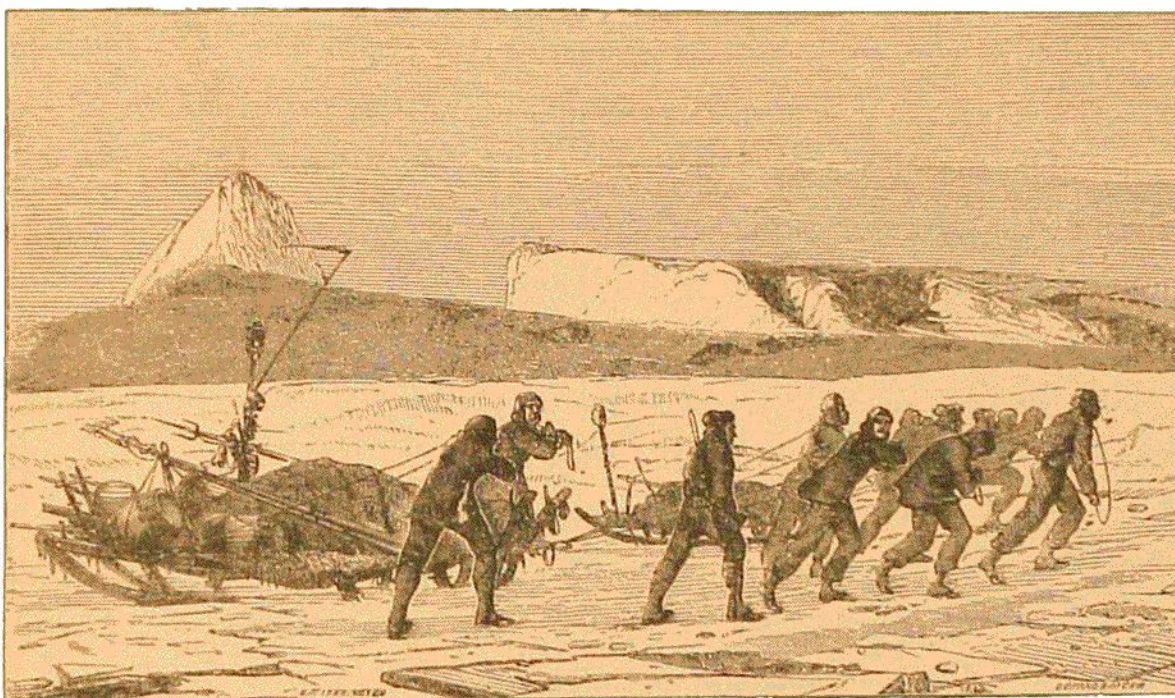


FIG. 239.—PARRY'S BOAT-SLEDGES, TO THE NORTH OF SPITZBERGEN.

By this most toilsome process, which was seldom interrupted by an interval of comparative repose, they contrived to accomplish eight miles in five days. They travelled only during the night, as a precaution against snow-blindness, and because the ice was then firmer and more consistent; they had also the great advantage of lying down to sleep during the warmer portion of the twenty-four hours. Soon after sunset they breakfasted; then worked for a few hours before taking their principal meal. Towards sunrise they halted, as if for the night; smoked their pipes; looked across the icy desert in

\* [Cooley, "History of Maritime Discovery."—See also Parry's Narrative.]