

saw the thermometer descend to 13° below freezing-point. In the month of October 1854, M'Clure returned to England. A few years later, as we have seen, certain information was obtained that Franklin, before death overtook him, had succeeded in discovering the other



FIG. 241.—DISCOVERY OF THE CAIRN CONTAINING SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S PAPERS.

open passage in the frozen North, to the south of Victoria and Wellington Lands.

In 1853, Dr. Elisha Kane's expedition penetrated into Smith's Strait, and advanced northward upon sledges drawn by dogs. The temperature, which had varied, on an average, from 2° to 12° below freezing-point, sank as low as 22° . At 11° from the pole, Kane fell in with Eskimo villages, called Etah and Peterovik, and he also discovered a colossal and majestic glacier, which he named after the philosopher Humboldt, and which he describes as connecting the two