

continents of Europe and America. A portion of his followers, led by Lieutenant Morton, discovered, beyond the 80th parallel, a channel of open water, tenanted by innumerable birds ; sea-swallows, ducks, and gulls filled the air with their shrill cries. Seals disported on the floating ice. Ascending its shores, Morton encountered several genera of flowering plants : *lychnis*, *hesperis*, *joubarbes* (?), and the like. On the 24th of June, he planted upon Cape Independence, above the 81st parallel of north latitude, the flag of the *Antarctic*, which had previously seen the icebergs of the southern pole. To the north, an open sea extended far beyond the range of sight ; to the left, the western shore of Kennedy Sound apparently terminated in a chain of mountains, whose loftiest peak, 9700 feet in height, received the appellation of Mount Parry. The expedition then returned to the south,

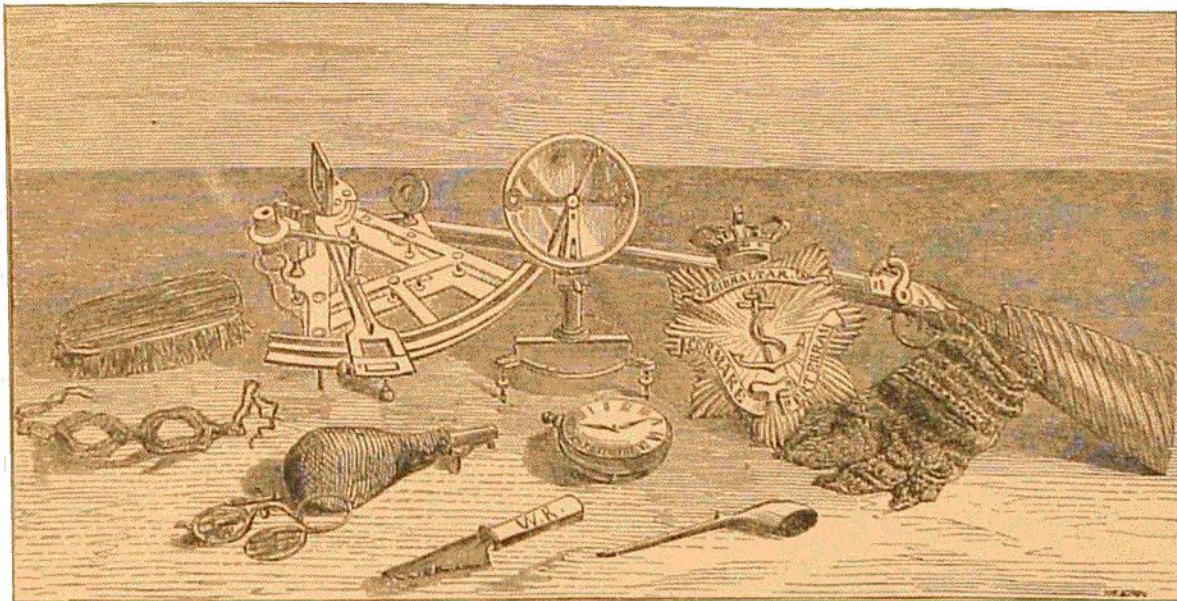


FIG. 242.—RELICS OF FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION, BROUGHT BACK TO ENGLAND IN 1850.

and arrived, in a most feeble and wretched condition, at the port of Uppernavick, where its members were received on board an American vessel. Kane, exhausted by the sufferings he had undergone, died in 1857.

[Since the discovery of Franklin's fate, and the solution of the long-vexed problem of a North-West Passage, the interest felt by England in Arctic exploration has died out. Some interesting information respecting the manners and habits of the Eskimos, and the