

IV -Memoir of fleeming Jenkin

In this chapter, the narrative captures a particularly tense moment in the engineering endeavors of Fleeming Jenkin, highlighting the challenges faced during undersea cable operations. Jenkin's team embarks on a precarious task of recovering and testing a damaged cable off the coast, which had been deteriorating and was at risk of breaking due to external wear. The operation commences with a blend of hope and trepidation as they attempt to dredge the cable from the deeper waters, a move fraught with the risk of the cable not withstanding the strain due to its compromised state.

As the cable is retrieved, signs of a break nearby emerge, inciting a moment of frustration for Jenkin. However, upon testing, it's discovered that the break is towards shore, leaving the segment extending seaward intact - a silver lining in an otherwise grim situation. Despite the successful recovery of the cable segment, communication from Spartivento ceases, leading to concerns about the condition of Jenkin's men and the operational integrity of the undersea lines.

Determined to restore connectivity, Jenkin decides to lay a new section of cable from their current location to shore, hoping to ascertain and rectify the issue at Spartivento. The operation is conducted under serene night skies, juxtaposed against the underlying urgency and complexity of their task. The team successfully lays down the cable to Fort Genois, subsequently focusing on recovering fragments of the damaged cables and preparing for their departure to Spartivento.

Transitioning from the detailed accounts of these meticulous operations, the narrative shifts focus onto Jenkin's personal journey, indicating a departure from the habit of journal keeping and diary letters – practices that he gradually outgrows. Nevertheless, the account provides glimpses into his professional correspondence, offering insights into the challenges of laying the Norderney cable. These snippets not only showcase the technical and physical adversities Jenkin faces but also illuminate his resolute spirit

and unwavering commitment to overcoming the manifold obstacles encountered in the realm of undersea telecommunication.

