II -Memoir of fleeming Jenkin

The chapter recounts several voyages of Fleeming Jenkin, focusing on his experiences with submarine telegraphy and cable-laying expeditions in various locations, including the Mediterranean and near Alexandria. The narrative highlights both the technical challenges and the adventurous aspects of these early engineering feats.

On July 2, Jenkin reports 28 miles of cable safely stored in the hold of the ship ELBA, noting the ship's depth and the remaining cable weight. By July 5, they have successfully recovered the majority of the six-wire cable, despite some loss and challenges, marking the venture as a success.

The narrative then shifts to the 1859 cruise among the Greek Islands and Alexandria, providing vivid descriptions of the landscapes, cultures, and experiences encountered. Jenkin describes leisurely days filled with sightings of nature, historical ruins, and the blending of eastern and western cultures, particularly noting the striking visuals and environments of the islands and coastal towns. He recounts a memorable arrival in Canea, a town that impresses with its blend of natural beauty and cultural richness.

Jenkin's adventures also take him to Candia, where he marvels at the robust nature and historical remnants. A significant part of his journey involves the practical challenges of cable-laying, including selecting landing sites for the cables and managing unexpected technical difficulties. The narrative covers an incident near Alexandria where the ship runs aground twice due to misjudgment and adverse conditions, endangering the mission and the crew. Despite these obstacles, they manage to resolve the situation without significant damage.

Throughout the chapter, Jenkin's dual role as an engineer and an observer of the cultures and landscapes he encounters is evident. His accounts blend technical detail with reflective observations on the places and people he encounters, showcasing the

multifaceted challenges and rewards of early telecommunication ventures.