


One main thread throughout this history has been that of teamwork on the cables ship where the skills of Navigation, Engineering, Cable laying and splicing (Joining) are fused into one common objective - to provide a reliable submarine cable. With the development of new types of cable, new laying techniques for these cables, new designs of cable ships, and acquiring new skills meant that many events took place at the same time. So I have often taken one facet of the history at a time and followed it through to a point where other themes can be brought up to that same point. In this way a clearer story emerges with fewer players on the stage at any one time.

With the passing of time the close teamwork spread from the cable ships to the support groups ashore. From a stage where the attitude of the work force was not "It is their (the cables ship's) problem" to one where the BT Research Laboratory, the Ships complements, and the shore support group feel "This is our problem how shall we overcome it?" This attitude made my task of recording the history of the BTI Marine Services so much easier, indeed, the help given to me in response to my enquiries was very encouraging.



Eric G. Clayton

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TRIED THROUGH ROAD
 - 3 Getting to grips with the Submarine Cable business *THE TELEGRAPH ACTS OF 1865 AND 1869*
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