

panies Act of 1862, was formed with ample powers for the construction, laying down, maintenance, and working of submarine and electric telegraphs between Great Britain and America, but that its more immediate object was, on behalf of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, to recover and complete the broken cable of 1865 and to lay down another cable between Ireland and Newfoundland. In both of these objects it was entirely successful, and to it, therefore, is due the credit of having, in 1866, succeeded in establishing permanent telegraphic communication between the British isles and America. In this Company are now merged three others:—

1. The Atlantic Telegraph Company.
2. The Société du Cable Transatlantique Français, Limited.
3. The New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company.

The first-named Company was incorporated by Act of Parliament in the year 1857. It spent 1,359,647*l.* in the effort to lay a submarine cable across the Atlantic, and then gave place to the more fortunate Anglo-American Company, in which its own rights were vested by Act of the Imperial Parliament in 1870.

The French Cable Company was formed in 1868 to lay a cable between Brest and St. Pierre, and from the latter island to Duxbury, Massachusetts. By arrangement with the Anglo-American Company, it laid down a second cable between Ireland and