

SUBMARINE HELPED SAVE MEN

One of the Ville de Lille's Crew Describes Sinking of the Ship.

CHERBOURG, (via Paris,) Feb. 20.—The story of the sinking of the French steamer Ville de Lille by a German submarine off the Barfleur Lighthouse, east of Cherbourg, was told last night by the boatswain of the vessel.

The submarine, he said, was the U-16, which pursued the Ville de Lille some distance and manoeuvred in such a way as to prevent her escape. Then the Germans hoisted the signal "stop or we fire," after which the steamer stopped and the submarine came alongside the steamer.

"I will give you ten minutes to leave the ship," said the German commander, according to the boatswain's story. The crew complied with the order and took to the boats pulling toward Barfleur.

Meanwhile two men from the submarine went aboard the steamer and placed two bombs, one in the Captain's room and the other in the forecastle. Ten minutes later there were two explosions and the ship began to sink by the stern. The Captain and crew wept as they saw their ship go down.

After the bombs had been placed aboard the Ville de Lille the submarine stopped a Dutch ship, which was allowed to proceed after the Germans satisfied themselves there was no contraband aboard.

The submarine then returned to the Ville de Lille's boats and took them in tow until the Barfleur Light was in sight.

The Captain of the steamer did not have time to dress fully before he was ordered to leave his ship, and injured his chin in climbing into the boat. The German commander, observing the Captain's injury, took him aboard the submarine and gave him first aid treatment. The Germans also gave the master of the steamer a fine pair of sea boots because he had been compelled to leave his own behind.