

signal for war to commence on August 4th, and some few of them have achieved some success in sinking unarmed merchantmen. The skill and forethought shown in the supplies of fuel and ammunition have alike been admirable; and their system of wireless information has been really good. We have lost a few ships through the attacks of their well-designed submarine ships: it is not generally known here that these submarine ships have a displacement of 800 tons, with engines capable of 1900 horse-power, a radius of action of 2,000 miles, and a speed of 17 knots on the surface and 12 knots when submerged. Their four torpedo tubes can launch an explosive engine of a diameter of nearly 20 inches. The complement of men is 32, picked men and highly trained. Their other interests at sea are mainly directed to chartering vessels flying neutral flags and destined to neutral ports, whence their cargoes can be safely conveyed to Germany.

I have given the Germans credit for their wonderful organization and supplies, and the fine fighting of their corps of officers, and the discipline of their men under fire. But I hardly dare to let myself speak of their utterly savage brutality, and their disregard for all feelings of humanity.

They rob and they plunder the houses in towns and villages: perhaps the officers cannot wholly help that, though I remember a fine answer which the British officer in command sent to the Frenchmen when they wished to surrender in St. John's. They asked that their private property should be respected. The answer was, "His Britannick Majesty's troops never pillage."—(Prowse's History, page 414).

They destroy property wantonly. They levy huge requisitions on undefended towns and hamlets. (They actu-