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"He showed fine seamanship in the way he navigated his barge in the strong-running tide," said the man.

The Colwith Force is of 805 tons gross, and is owned by W. S. Kennough and Co., Liverpool.

KEEL VISIBLE

Mate of the barge was John Henry Dawson, 43, Egton-st., Hull. The barge was travelling light to Moat House Wharf, Wakefield, to load open-cast coal.

At high water today, only the bows of the Colwith Force were visible. The steamers Alt and Yorkbrook, also outward bound last night, had to put back to port and sailed today.

"We were shouting for help for about 20 minutes before the barge arrived, and by the time the last man was taken off, the ship's keel was showing."

Another seaman paid high tribute to Skipper Whitehead for his rescue work.

During the night, members of the Goole section of the West Riding Fire Service took out trailer pumps on a lighter, but found it was impossible to carry out any operations.

The Colwith Force sank almost at the spot where the s.s. Kodumaa grounded in 1942 and became a total wreck.

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