

## BIG SCHOONER IS LAUNCHED.

The Wyoming, Largest Wooden Sailing Vessel in the World, Takes First Dip.

BATH, Me., Dec. 15.—The largest wooden sailing vessel in the world is the six-masted schooner Wyoming, which was launched here to-day. The Wyoming, which is also the largest American sailing craft of either wood or steel, has a gross tonnage of 3,780, or twenty-two tons greater than that of the six-sticker William L. Douglas, the more recent title holder. The construction of the new schooner does not, however, mark a new record in the line of gigantic wooden sailing craft, for the ill-starred seven-masted, Thomas W. Lawson, had a gross tonnage of 5,218. The Lawson was lost on a rock of the Scilly Islands several years ago.

The Wyoming, which is named for the Western State, cost \$190,000 and is owned principally by her builders, Percy & Small, although Western capitalists are interested in the vessel. Her principal dimensions are: Length, 327.5 feet; beam, 50.1 feet; depth, of hold, 30.4 feet. She has three decks with five discharging hatches. The frame is securely strapped with iron and her keelson is fully protected with big bands of sheet iron. Complete communication with all parts of the schooner is made possible by a telephone system.

Capt. Angus McLeod of West Somerville, Mass., will command the Wyoming and she will probably sail inside a week for a southern port to take on a coal cargo. She was built for the coal carrying trade and has a capacity of about 6,000 tons. The Wyoming will hail from Bath.

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