

THE STEAMER WESTERLAND.

THE LARGEST VESSEL THAT WAS EVER
LAUNCHED ON THE MERSEY.

The new Red Star steam-ship Westernland left Antwerp for this port on her first ocean trip yesterday. This vessel was built at the Laird ship-yard, in Berkinhead, and is the largest ever launched on the River Mersey. Her gross measurement is 5,500 tons, and her dimensions are: Length, 455 feet; breadth of beam, 47 feet, and depth of hold, 35 feet. The hull is built of steel in several water-tight compartments, and she has four complete decks, three of which are steel-plated. The engines are of 4,000 indicated horse-power, with high and low pressure cylinders, 52 and 93 inches in diameter respectively, and a piston stroke of 66 inches. Steam is supplied by four double-ended steel boilers, which are heated by 24 furnaces of corrugated iron. The working pressure of the steam is 90 pounds to the square inch. The crank is a Vicker's built-up steel shaft, and the propeller is solid steel, with four blades. During her recent trial trip near Liverpool the machinery of the Westernland worked admirably, and she promises to prove a fast vessel. She is provided with superior accommodations for 80 first class, 60 second class, and 1,200 steerage passengers. The principal saloon is at the forward end of the main deck-house, and is lighted and ventilated by a handsome dome skylight. It is large, and has been fitted up in a luxurious manner. The paneling is of bird's-eye maple, with elegant designs, and the framing is of satin-wood. The furniture is of brown oak, and the upholstery has been done in peacock-blue. The companionways leading to the saloon and state-rooms have been constructed of teak, with satin-wood moldings. In a deck-house above the main saloon is the ladies' boudoir, which is an elegant apartment with decorated panels and sofas upholstered in old-gold plush. The tables are ebonized. The state-rooms, which are on the main deck amidships, are well lighted and ventilated and contain every facility for comfort. Above the saloon is a promenade deck 200 feet long, and the smoking-room is on this deck. The second cabin is aft of the main saloon, and is well fitted up with a view to the comfort of passengers. The steerage accommodations in the between-decks are unusually good. In lighting the vessel the electric lamps of Siemens Brothers & Co. are used. The Westernland is supplied with all the latest steam appliances. In her hold is ample room for 5,000 tons of cargo. The forward and after portions of the vessel are guarded by turtle-back decks. There are four steel masts, of which the two forward ones have square yards, while the others are fore-and-aft rigged. Capt. Randle, who has been in the employ of the Red Star Company for some years, commands the steam-ship.

Another new steam-ship for the Red Star Line is now being built at the Laird ship-yard, and will be launched in a few weeks.

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