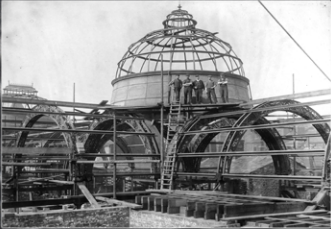


INTO THE 20TH CENTURY



Leeds County Arcade during construction, 1900. View of one of the domes with 5 workers standing on plank. The architect for the project was Frank Matcham and Co, London.



Balcony-verandah at the rear of the Grand Stand Building at Ascot Racecourse, c 1901



Balcony-verandah for the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, c 1920

By the end of the nineteenth century business was booming, as reported in the *Kirkintilloch Herald* of 29 November 1899 'A BIG ORDER – We are gratified to learn that the Lion Foundry Company have been successful in securing a large English order that will ensure a briskness in certain departments for months to come. It is an arcade for Leeds, in which ornamental castings will play a large part. The Company have also an order for a theatre shelter in Nottingham, and are presently engaged upon the pavilion in the Ranger's ground at Ibrox.'

The period 1900-1914 saw the heyday of the Lion's ornamental cast iron work. The foundry was involved in large constructional ironwork projects in cities all over the UK, from Glasgow and Edinburgh to Manchester, London, Birmingham and Portsmouth. One of the most prestigious jobs of this period was the Leeds County Arcade mentioned above, for which the Lion supplied and erected the highly ornamental roof trusses, domes and balcony railings. With the outbreak of war in 1914 the firm returned to producing more utilitarian castings. It also manufactured bombs, a special cupola being installed for this purpose.



View of the completed arcade interior showing the Lyons Tea Room, 1900.



Completed arcade interior 1900