

THE IRON FOUNDRY IN 1900
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Lilleshall Steel Foundry and
Engineering Works

A LOCAL PROGRESSIVE CONCERN

Like many other industries in the Illawarra Mr. Davis' (sic) Lilleshall steel foundry and engineering works is progressing with leaps and bounds. It will be remembered, comparatively speaking, Mr. Davis started operations in a very small way, but aided by instinctive business tact and shrewdness, the small business of years ago has grown into quite a large concern. The latest order received by the firm on a big scale is from the *Smelting Company of Australia* for four lead pots each to hold ten tons of molten lead, the castings weighing some 36 cwt. [1.829 tonnes] and taking two tons [2.032 tonnes] of metal specially imported from England. To carry out this work, a travelling crane on steel girders capable of lifting between seven and eight tons had to be erected, the whole of the necessary parts being manufactured on the premises. The workshop which is 80 ft [24.38 metres] wide and 90 ft [26.78 m] long, is complete with all the most up-to-date machinery required in connection with the trade, and anything and everything can be turned out at the shortest notice. An additional cupola, making two, has also been erected, so that now castings up to 6 and 7 tons can now be undertaken. A special feature in the machinery is a surfacing and wheel turning lathe, manufactured on the premises which will take in a wheel 10ft to 12ft. The *steel* plant has also received special attention of late, as large orders are shortly expected in this quarter. At present the firm is busy, in addition to other work, turning out several tons of points and crossing for Western Australia. As the district goes ahead the energetic manager intends to do the same, and already has his eye on several innovations which will be introduced as soon as the requirements of the district warrant it.