

# Our Industries.

No. XIV.—S. KIRKPATRICK & CO., LTD.

THERE is probably no industry in Nelson of greater importance to the district and the colony than Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Co's. Fruit Preserving Works. Viewed as a means of employment for a large number of persons in a variety of occupations, or as disposing of the produce of the orchards and gardens of the district, or of furnishing the colony

with delicious and health-giving food products, the industry is one that commands attention on much wider grounds than as a commercial speculation. We hope to show that the success of this business will be an object lesson of colonial importance, as answering to some extent at least, the question: "What shall we do with our boys?" and

showing also what we may do with some of our lands.

But, to begin at the beginning, we may state that Mr. Kirkpatrick commenced operations as a fruit preserver more than a quarter of a century ago, in premises which had been occupied by the first New Zealand Woollen Cloth Manufacturing Company, situated in Bridge street, Nelson. It was very soon found that new premises were absolutely necessary to cope with the rapidly increasing business, and accordingly the present extensive factory was erected, the largest block of buildings devoted to this business in the Australasian colonies.

Roomy as the premises are, they are by no means too large for the business in the height of the fruit season. On the day of our representative's visit, the receiving room was



PICKLE DEPARTMENT.



PRESERVING DEPARTMENT.