



## Entrapping a Tradesman

At the Petty sessions on Wednesday, before Messrs. J. P. Stancombe and W. R. Brown, a grocer of Trowbridge, named Thomas Allen Kingham, was summoned by Mr. Thomas Wilford, exciseman, for selling spirits without a license. The defendant was an agent for a London Wine Company, who advertised their wines and spirits also in the local paper, and defendant's name was attached to the advertisement.

He had no spirit license, and the exciseman sent an old man to the shop for some groceries, a bottle of brandy and a bottle of gin. The defendant said he did not sell spirits, but to oblige the old man, sent for the spirits from another shop, which had a license.

The bench considered the case fully proved, and inflicted the mitigated penalty of £12 10s. Defendant declared he had never before had a bottle of spirits in his house, and he did not know he was in error in allowing his name to appear in the advertisement without first taking out a license. He never authorized the insertion of the advertisement: that was proved to be done by the firm themselves. The bench said that did not help him, and he must petition the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for a reduction of the fine.

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