

A "GOVERNMENT" INSPECTOR IN TROUBLE.

(From our Correspondent.)

Yesterday (Monday) at Dewsbury, William Jackson, of Leeds, was brought up on remand, charged with obtaining money under false pretences from several tradesmen in the district of Dewsbury. It was shown in evidence that the prisoner travels the country representing himself as being a Government Inspector, and in order to carry out his object the more successfully he wears a hat on which is inscribed in large golden characters "V.R." and "Inspector." On the 26th ult., he, accompanied by another person, went to the house of Mr. Richard Terry, a tradesman in Mirfield, and asked to look at his flues, and after examining them he said they were all wrong, and that five "trap-doors" were required, but that he would make three serve. He then produced further credentials in the shape of large printed bills, cards, &c., and told Mr. Terry that unless the doors were put in he would have him fined from £10 to £50. This induced Mr. Terry to consent to the alterations, for which the prisoner charged 19s. 6d. A witness proved that the condemned flues were made in conformity with the Act of Parliament. Mr. Squire Armitage gave similar evidence, and stated that he had been victimized to the amount of £1 12s. 6d., the charge for each "door" being 6s. 6d. Mr. Thomas Scargill, of Chidswell, said that the prisoner waited upon him respecting fifteen cottages, of which witness was part owner. All the flues the prisoner said were defective, and must be altered by him, or he would have witness heavily fined. Upon these and other representations, accompanied by threats of prosecution, witness gave the prisoner an order for fourteen doors, for which a charge of 3s. 6d. each was made. He afterwards paid the prisoner £2 9s.; but had seen nothing of the "doors" since, although he ordered them to be delivered on the premises. After a few remarks from Mr. Scholes, who defended, the Magistrates committed the prisoner for trial. Bail was refused.