

**THE BANKRUPTCY OF W. A. JACKSON.**—At Stockton Bankruptcy Court yesterday—before Mr Registrar Crosby—Wm. Aiskew Jackson, formerly carrying on business as wine and spirit merchant at Darlington, was again brought up in custody of two warders from Durham Gaol for further examination at the hands of the Official Receiver (Mr J. R. Stubbs, J.P.). Mr Briggs (Derby) appeared for Ind, Coope, & Co., of Burton-on-Trent. Since last examination debtor had prepared four statements, showing his receipts, payments, and goods bought from Jan. 1st, 1886, to August 1st, 1887.—In reply to the Official Receiver, he said he received during the month of July sums amounting to £145 1s 5d. He had paid it into the bank and to Mr Clayhills, solicitor, for money lent. He paid £88 to Mr Clayhills for money lent and interest. He borrowed some money from him in May for two months at 5 per cent. interest.—The Official Receiver intimated that, having only received these statements the previous night, he was not in a position to go further into them, and asked that the examination be further adjourned after Mr Briggs's cross-examination was concluded.—Mr Briggs then examined debtor. In August, 1880, he was appointed purchasing agent for Darlington for Messrs Ind, Coope, & Co.'s beer. He was to have 17½ per cent. discount and 5 per cent. commission. Afterwards an allowance of 1s per barrel, subsequently increased to 2s, was made on account of cartage. In 1885 he became the firm's traveller on a salary of £25 per year with commission, being the difference between 25 per cent. and the discount he allowed to the purchaser. When that agreement was settled the company had in their possession dishonoured bills of his to the amount of £336 6s, which they agreed to hold over, and between the 1st January and the 19th May, 1886, they also supplied him with beer to the amount of £191 13s 8d for his own business. In October, 1885, he applied to Messrs Ind, Coope, & Co. for a loan of £600 or £800.—On the 17th October, 1885, you wrote: "My total income from property, comprising seven houses, is £234 a year. I also have £1,300 on twelve houses at Middlesbrough, and some local gas shares. (Laughter.) I have also some freehold building land at Darlington, let at present for gardens, and all unencumbered absolutely."—Debtor: Oh, that was a mistake. (Laughter.)—"My life is insured for £1,300 for natural death, and £1,000 for accidental death, the former since 1859, which must now be of some value. . . . I should like to have a loan of at least £800." Is that letter true or false? It was partly true and

partly false. At the time this was written Mr Higginbottom knew my circumstances.—There was another letter of the 20th October, 1885: "I thought that the property I had of my own would have been sufficient security for you for the loan asked for, to be repaid in two years with interest at 5 per cent., considering my property worth £5,000 independent of the life policy." Did you write that? Yes.—Is that true? It was not worth so much as that, sir.—Did you at the beginning of 1886 ask the firm for time, saying you had given notice to call in the mortgage of £1,300 you had on some property at Middlesbrough? Yes.—Was that true? Well, it turned out to be my wife's, and I could not touch it, and she could not touch it either. (Laughter.)—You have sworn in the presence of the reporters, and it has been reported throughout the country, that you had an agreement with Messrs Ind, Coope, & Co. in 1880, and you were to have these things by which you have sworn that they were indebted to you, at present over £1,000, and now you admit— I told them I had to be treated like other agents.—You have admitted that at the end of 1885, or the beginning of 1886, you were trying to get £800 from them upon these alleged fictitious securities—is there a word of truth in this suggestion that in 1880 you had an agreement? Well, I had no agreement.—Is there a word of truth in it? That was what I calculated I should have as between man and man for what I did for them. (Laughter.)—Did you write this letter:—"I am having a fresh will prepared, leaving Messrs Ind, Coope, & Co. what would cover the whole of their debt"?—The Registrar:—A will! What, were you going to die? (Laughter.) No, sir; they wanted security. I expected I had two houses clear, and they were not.—Mr Briggs (continuing): "I am going into our hospital to-night to undergo an operation. I am worse, having now totally lost my speech, and I have had a fresh will prepared, leaving Messrs Ind, Coope, & Co. what will cover all my indebtedness to them."—The Registrar: Did you not leave Higginbottom something, too? (Laughter.) I should have left him something, considering he was pressing me every day. He was a jolly good fellow though; he liked champagne. (Laughter.)—Mr Briggs: Did you go into the hospital? No; I went to Dr. M'Carthy instead, and he advised me.—The Registrar: It was a monetary operation you wanted performed most? Yes; it would have done me the most good. (Laughter.)—Mr Briggs read an affidavit made by debtor on June 17th, 1887, in the Superior Court, in regard

to this case, in which he swore that, in August, 1880, he was engaged as the plaintiff's agent, and that he was to receive a salary of £25 per annum, with £2 per week travelling expenses and 25 per cent. commission on sales, and 1s per barrel, afterwards increased to 2s per barrel, for cartage. Is that affidavit true? Is it true that in 1880 you were engaged by Ind, Coope, & Co. on those terms? Yes or no? No, I was not. I had to be paid something, and that is the lowest I could put it at.—The Registrar: Listen, listen.—Is it true, as you have sworn in that affidavit, that you were appointed their agent upon those terms? Yes or no? No; those terms were not mentioned. I was promised something.—Is it true that the "such salary, expenses, and commission was to accumulate in the plaintiffs' hands until it reached the sum of £500, as a guarantee fund?" No; it is not true.—Was it true that "there is now due from the plaintiffs a sum of £505 8s 11d, for arrears of such salary, expenses, and commission, after giving them credit for £667 15s 6d, due to them?" No, sir; it is not true, because I could not get anything. I had no agreement.—Do you know that on the strength of that affidavit you were allowed unconditional leave to defend that action? I do not know; Mr Wooler had it all in hand.—Is it true you instituted an action against Messrs Coope & Co. to recover this alleged £505 8s 11d? Yes; but when Mr Wooler found I had no agreement he stopped the action.—Did you not fight that action right down to the last day of the assizes? I do not know; Mr Wooler had the matter in hand. He told me we had no chance as I had no written agreement.—Did Mr Wooler deliver you his bill of costs? No; he has got a second mortgage on my property as security for his costs.—The examination was eventually adjourned until August 8th, and debtor was subsequently reconveyed to Durham in custody.