

tion and to answer any questions privately to any of the Shareholders who may wish to come and confer with us. Speaking for myself, I have no desire to be separated from the rest of my colleagues. We have all acted in the most perfect good faith and harmony. They have borne the heat and burden of the day; I have only come in at the end to take the last part in this business that has been going on for many years; but I know I may say this for the Directors, that they will be perfectly ready to discuss the matter with any gentleman who may take an interest in it. I do not think that any advantage would arise, I am bound to say it honestly, from the appointment of a committee such as that proposed, because, after all, it is a very difficult thing to appoint a committee which would entirely represent the feelings of those who ought to be represented. Numbers of questions suggest themselves to the mind of one gentleman or another, and it may or may not be the case that this committee would put questions which would satisfy each Proprietor. I think the better course would be that all who have questions to put should come to us freely and confer with us. I would suggest to Mr. Bonar, who has made this motion in a very proper spirit, wishing to get plenty of time and not to be driven into a corner, which I quite agree with him it would be a hard thing to press, I suggest to him that he should withdraw his amendment in its present shape and that he should move that the Meeting do now adjourn, and that a day be named to which the adjournment should take place. Then we would agree to that, and undertake to confer with the Shareholders, or any of them who might wish to come to us for that purpose. I will not undertake to propose a day. I should have suggested this day week, or to-morrow week, if it was thought desirable, but I will not attempt to force anything upon the Meeting. I should like to know what is thought