

Haste is the characteristic of all Mr. Watkin's actions; a little more deliberation, and we might have been prevented from rushing into the liability of paying £ 1,250 per annum for making steel rails, that we are not at all likely to make for a long while; a little more deliberation and we might have found out that instead of ordering 25 engines at once, we could have spread the order over a longer period. Five minutes deliberation ought to have prevented the error of £ 5,000 in the December, 1867 Accounts, particularly after it had been pointed out verbally to the Secretary, and afterwards by letter; surely, haste was shewn in offering to "cry quits" with the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway Company, and, in this way settle all accounts.* All this is detrimental to the Company's interests. We want a Chairman, who, while firm in his policy, shall be desirous of peace, and disposed to conciliation. Not one who is pugnacious, and disposed to controversies and litigation, as Mr. Watkin is well known to be; witness his invasion of the Brighton Company's system, by the Lewes and Brighton scheme, and his long contest with the South Western Company and the public, about the Waterloo Road Station.

And now, gentlemen, a few words on the extraordinary conduct of the Board in refusing to me, a Director of the Company, a list of the registered bond and stockholders. Why the Board are afraid of the Proprietary being introduced one to another is for them to explain. That they should have penned such an extraordinary resolution as that of the 29th April, stating that the Board had *invariably* refused, under legal advice, to give this list, is perfectly marvellous. Why, in the year 1860 the list was actually printed, and I have lately seen a copy. Surely Mr. Watkin must have been aware of this fact when he agreed to the resolution. Then again, I ask this gentleman, is he quite sure that about two years since

* See this Company's last Report.