

Mr. BONAR: I rise to a point of order. As we have been admitted without tickets, have any steps been taken to ascertain whether all the persons present are members of the Company?

Mr. ELEY: Signing the names being no protection.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I understand that the practice which has been pursued upon the present occasion is the same as that which has been pursued on other occasions. But, however that may be, I understand that all who have come in, with the exception of the Officers of the Company, have been called upon to sign their names, and, having done so, that will be a *prima facie* test at all events that they are members of the body of Shareholders. If a ballot should be called for, and any vote should be taken otherwise than by show of hands, of course persons coming to vote will have to show who they are, and that they are on the register of Shareholders. In regard to a show of hands, it might happen that there may be persons, I do not think it probable there are many, who are not entitled to vote, and of course if any important question is decided by show of hands, and it is thought desirable to test the opinion of the Shareholders by a more regular process, any seven of the Shareholders can demand a ballot by putting their names in writing. I believe the next thing I ought to do is to call upon the Secretary to read the letter from Sir Frederic Rogers. I would ask whether you wish to have it read? ("No." "Take it as read.") Then, gentlemen, I would say, in the first place, I must correct an error in the notice which has been published convening the Meeting, which, I believe, has attracted the attention of some Shareholders, and which is sufficiently obvious. It is of no real importance, but it is an error. You are told that you are called upon to consider a proposal for the transference of the Company's territory to Canada. Now, that is not accurate.