

TORONTO, 27th Jan., 1853.

To the Editor of the British Canadian.

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SIR.—In the report of the proceedings of the City Council of Monday evening last, the *Patriot* has reported "Councilman Romain stated," he had the authority of Mr. Ridout, Cashier of the Bank of Upper Canada, to state that the conduct of Mr. Bell, Alderman for St. David's Ward, was disreputable, in making certain inquiries in reference to the £10,000 transaction then in question.

As such a declaration on the part of Mr Ridout could not have been made with truth, I found it necessary to address to that Gentleman the following note :

TORONTO, 26th Jan., 1852.

THOS. G. RIDOUT, Esq.,

Cashier, Bank of Upper Canada,

SIR.—In a discussion that took place in the City Council on Monday evening last, Councilman Romain stated that you had authorized him to charge me with disreputable conduct in having made inquiries of you, as to who got £10,000 for discounting the City Debentures.

It becomes my duty to ask you, for self defence, if you did confer such authority, and if you did, that you will point out in what particulars I am chargeable or liable to be stigmatized.

Your obd't. Serv't.,

JOHN BELL.

MR. RIDOUT'S ANSWER.

TORONTO, 26th Jan., 1853.

SIR,—In reply to your note of this date, I beg to inform you, that I have not authorized Mr. Romain to charge you with disreputable conduct as you term it, neither am I aware that I have said, or done any thing that could be so construed.

I remain, Sir, your obd't. Serv't.,

(Signed) THOMAS G. RIDOUT.

JOHN BELL, Esq.,

I ask you now to place the facts before the public, through the same channel that Mr. Romain's declaration was conveyed.

Your obd't Serv't.,

JOHN BELL.