

BEGIN RIGHT;
OR,
FACTS IN FIGURES
FOR THE PEOPLE.

**TO THE RATE-PAYERS, AND OTHER CITIZENS, OF
TORONTO.**

In these days of great undertakings, whether in the management of mind or of matter, the value of the maxim *begin right* can hardly be over rated, and in the present agitation towards a much needed retrenchment of public expenses; it is a matter of no small importance, that a right beginning be made towards accomplishing that object.

The Toronto Temperance Reformation Society beg leave to address you upon a subject having the most intimate bearing on this point, and which they deem worthy of a full and careful consideration, also to lay before you an account of the money which you are called upon from time to time to contribute, with a statement and review of some important items of your City receipts and expenditure for the year 1864, as shewn by your public Financial Statement just published.

Amongst other recommendations in your retrenchment committee's report is a reduction of your Police force cost and the donations to public charities. Both of these amounts of expenditure are the natural and inevitable effects of certain causes within your control and to try to take away or lessen the **EFFECT** without removing or diminishing the **CAUSE** is so unreasonable that to an intelligent public it should scarcely be necessary to urge the argument in more than very general terms.

In opening this question we think we **BEGIN RIGHT** to assume what you will not deny us, namely, that the greatest wealth and the surest basis even of the material prosperity of any country or city is the character, virtue and intelligence of its people. To form that character is our first and highest interest as a city or country. For this purpose our common school system was founded, and is now being sustained at the annual expense of about twenty-eight thousand dollars, about twenty-four thousand dollars of which came from your Municipal Fund. But while you are cherishing your

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