

that surplus that they should increase the water rates, he made a most extraordinary proposition: and to which of the three ideas that affect some people which I have mentioned that his proposition should most advisedly be placed, I will place in your hands for decision. The proposition was so absurd that the *Free Press* of March 17th last, in its editorial columns had to say:—

"Mayor Stewart made an extraordinary proposition to the civic special committee on Tuesday. It was to increase the water rates for the purpose of creating a surplus which could be handed to the Board of Works for street making. It is surprising that Mayor Stewart as a lawyer is found espousing such a cause, and shows that he is not acquainted with the Water Works Act."

Here we find a proposition made by Mayor Stewart to raise the cost of the water supply to create a surplus, a proposition to increase the taxation in water supply to create a surplus. What wisdom is therein exhibited? How surprisingly suggestive? Do not the citizens of Ottawa pay enough at present? Mr. Stewart thinks not. But Mr. Stewart lives in Stewarton, and does not pay water taxes, therefore why should he care for the extra cost according to his suggestion to be created.

ANNEXATION.

Mayor Stewart desires a second term, and in his plea to be returned informs the elector that "a committee charged with the consideration of annexing the cutlying districts, and the re-distribution of the wards having been appointed, a report is now before the Council for discussion and adoption. I have no doubt but that it will lead to favorable results." Every one who hears me is aware that Mr. Stewart last year said that if elected he would bring Stewarton into the city; that the people of Stewarton were only waiting for him to occupy the chair to induce them to give their consent; and now what do we find, simply that nothing has been done. This is another of Mayor Stewart's broken promises. But before ending my remarks on the subject of annexation, let me read you a few paragraphs from Ottawa's several newspapers. Previous to the election last year, on December, 29th, the *Citizen* said, "The advocates of the annexation of Stewarton to this city are jubilant over the prospect of the election of McLeod Stewart as Mayor of Ottawa. They say that only a little encouragement on the part of the city is needed to bring this fine suburb in." On January 3rd, McLeod Stewart, as reported in the *Citizen* stated that his offices, and if his business interests were in the city and even his residence, he hoped would soon be there also, when the annexation of Stewarton was brought about. He has always been in favour of annexation. On January 6th the *Free Press* editorially announced, "Now that the contest is over, it is to be hoped that Mr. Stewart will show that he is sincere in the annexation movement by using his dominant influence in Stewarton to bring that suburb in. The friends of annexation out there should move at once in the matter, and avail themselves of Mr. Stewart's services.

March 4th the *Journal* was of opinion that, if the committee of the City Council to whom the subject of extending the city's limits has