

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

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**A Cure for Rebating.** The President of the Fidelity Mutual suggests in his annual report, as a cure for rebating, that every life policy upon which a rebate has been allowed be legally void. He says: "Notice of such a law should be given in red ink on the margin of every policy, made obligatory upon the company by law, so that the holder will know that unless he has actually paid the money represented by the receipt he has no insurance. This will stop it, and will have the effect of reducing first year expenses about one-third, which will benefit the insurance companies."

**Bank Profits from Unclaimed Deposits.** One of our much esteemed clergy made a statement recently for which, he said, he had the authority of a prominent banker in this city to the effect that the large profits made by banks were derived to some considerable extent from the money deposited with them not being claimed. This was an unfortunate statement to be made by one whose utterances, from his professional standing, are naturally regarded as most reliable. The implication is, that banks forfeit money deposited with them in order to increase their profits. This will be news to our bankers, who would be glad to have a clearance from their books of scores of unclaimed deposits that "don't pay for their keep," so to speak.

**Buffalo also in the Wake of Montreal.** The address of the recently elected Mayor of Buffalo, reads like an extract from the columns of THE CHRONICLE.

He says that the present pumping station should be made fireproof; that additional pumping engines should be installed with the least possible delay: the fire alarm system should be properly protected against destruction by fire; the water mains and equipment should be made adequate, and says also, "Most emphatically should we have a

reserve pumping station with a full supply of pure water."

All those improvements have been repeatedly advocated in this journal as required for the adequate fire protection of this city.

**Corporation Grants for Election Purposes.**

The gift by a New York life assurance company to the campaign fund of a presidential candidate aroused widespread indignation throughout the United States. To prevent any repetition of this scandal a Bill has been introduced into the New York State Legislature which is likely to be passed either as a separate measure or as a clause in a general Insurance Act. This Bill prohibits any corporation doing business in the State of New York, directly or indirectly to "use or offer, consent or agree to use, any of its money or property for any political purpose whatever, or committee or organization, or for, or in aid of any candidate for political office or for nomination for such office, or in any manner use any of its money or property for any political purpose whatever, or for the reimbursement or indemnification of any person for moneys or property so used.

Any officer, stockholder, attorney or agent who participates in, aids, abets or advises any such violation, is made guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year and a fine of not more than \$1,000, and upon conviction such person would be "disqualified for employment of any kind by any corporation for the period of five years after such conviction."

If enforced such an Act would be effectual, but who is to see it enforced?

**Another Assessment Company Failure.** The Empire Life Insurance Company, Broadway, New York, has been put in charge of a receiver. It was organized in 1891, and reorganized as an assessment company in 1895. It came out before the insurance investigation committee on 19th ult., that the total cash assets