THE BEE.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY J. SAY[illegible]
PAPERS FOR THE STATE, and for the Union, [illegible]

NEW ORLEANS:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1838.

The Office of THE BEE is removed to [illegible] Street.

FIRST MUNICIPALITY.

The first municipality at length seems to [illegible] to the importance of constituting large numerous in its front, which shall serve [illegible] landing of cargoes on one [illegible] and steamboats. Some time ago the Council ordered Jerdon to be built for this purpose, to extend from the levee to the edge of low water; and they were constructed at considerable expense and apparently in a very substantial manner. But a few months since, as might have been foreseen, many of them were destroyed or rendered useless by the falling in of the river bank on which they were supported; and at present only one or two of this hundred and [illegible] standing and they are treated in the support of the municipality.

The falling in of the banks of the Mississippi in places where the current sets in, is an event which is always sure to occur sooner or later, and no human system can prevent it, or guard against it. Opposite to the house in which Mr Poriter formerly resided, the same accident, we are informed, has occurred at different intervals of time during the last fifty years. Some persons ascribe it to a subterranean current—but this we think, can hardly be the cause. During many years past the land, notwithstanding these occasional disruptions, has been gradually making out towards the current of the river. Twenty five years ago, indeed it was usual for ships to be moored not only in front of Poriter's house, but along nearly the whole front of the district, now called the first municipality. If there be a subterranean current it must have existed ere the land was covered with a space of a hundred feet, formerly overflowed. The falling in of the river bank is produced by quite a different cause: a cause well known to geologists, and described by them as "a mechanical power obtained by the attrition of sand, borne along with violence by a stream." Running water is a soft knife, mixed with foreign ingredients is possessed of mechanical force sufficient to excavate a rock, sapping and undermining it till the overhanging mass plunges into the stream. The force of the current acting against one bank of the Mississippi at a particular spot, is occasioned by the sinuosities of the stream and its deflexion first on one side and then on the other. The so causes, or even the prevalence of the wind in one quarter, sometimes forces the current out of its natural course of descent, then compelling it to act on one bank and to cut out a curve, till it is again turned against the opposite bank. This is the natural and eternal course of cause and effect; and no power possessed by the first municipality, prudence or art is in scientific and ingenious men, can change or alter it. All works constructed on the immediate margin of the river, in places subject to the attrition of the current, are sure to be swept away in the lapse of a very few years. The bottom on which are resting, even in mountain streams are produced by the same cause, added by the efflux into the main river of torrents which, in dry seasons, are not seen by the traveller, but which in storms and fresh is are swollen to the size of the rivers and rush into the main stream with either accumulation of water, pebbles, sand and trees. If a repetition of these causes through a long series of ages, produces excavations in the banks and sinuosities of the current, even in mountainous regions, where the banks of rivers at common seasons, are high and formed even of solid rock, much higher power of action is sufficient to produce similar effects on the other and lower soil of the Mississippi, the source of life and wealth of [illegible] The course of the stream is constantly shifting in different localities—of which the abrasion of the banks is at once an effect and a cause.

If these data be well founded, it is evident, as we have already observed, the works on the immediate margin of the stream can be permanent: to construct them involves an useless expenditure of public money, unless it be done in places where experience shows that the phenomena of the current are not where, consequently, there is no abrasion of the soil. Effectually, that some her means of facilitating the unloading of ships and steamboats must be resorted to by the first municipality, different from the present wooden platforms, supported on piles, and extending to the wall of the levee. It is a very fortunate circumstance in this matter has been confided by the constitutional and intelligent commissioner of Mr. M. Crozat, chairman on the levee committee. This gentleman contemplates the construction of floating [illegible] as a substitute for the platforms now in use and it appears, (so far as we are capable of judging) the most it not the only effectual substitute that can be adopted. The floating bridges have this advantage, that while in use, they can be made as safe from a rise in the water and the gales of wind as if they formed part of the shore. They can be done either by anchors or by lines made fast to posts on the land, or by both. They can be moved from one place to another, wherever they are wanted, and they can be connected with the levee by movable stages. This plan may be liable to objections, which by the bye, we have not been able to discover. We look upon it, as not only the easiest and most economical, but as the only efficient and permanent one that can be carried into effect.

At present it is the duty of the first municipality, as the first municipality, where a vessel of three hundred tons can load or unload alongside of the shore. The floating bridges suggested by Mr Crozat can be constructed without difficulty in time for vessels that may arrive at the opening of the busy season. When we reflect on the trifling amount of the expenditure, the immediate certainty of its answering the purpose contemplated, and the overwhelming importance of the object in view, we cannot but hope that the plans of Mr Crozat will be generally approved, and that he will be furnished with the means of promptly carrying his intentions into effect.

SITUATION OF THE NEW ORLEANS BANKS.

Comparative Statement from July to August.

Subjoined is the comparative statement of the banks of New Orleans, published by Mr. Charles Briggs, secretary, from which it appears that the respective circulation of each on the 5th inst. was as follows:

CIRCULATION.

	July 21.	August 6th.
Canal Bank,	$957,300	$198,415
Carrollton Bank,	659 270	660,503
Citizens' Bank,	160,215	139,150
City Bank,	716,190	703,160
Commercial Bank,	771,700	765,275
Consolidated Assoc'n,	1,413,300	493,900
Exchange Bank,	456,455	466,325
Gas Bank,	671,900	719,315
Improvement Bank,	783,980	779,815
Bank of Louisiana,	260,842	243,842
Louisiana State Bank,	158,760	163,065
Mechanics' Bank,	573,730	581,585
Merchants' Bank,	2,875	2,565
Orleans Bank,	452,825	452,981
Union Bank,	1,410,824	1,365,565
Atakapas Bank,	111,425	133,960
	$7,886,393	$7,500,712

Comparative Statement of the Specie in the Vaults, from July 2nd to August 6th.

SPECIE.

	July 21.	August 6th.
Canal Bank,	$51,979	$46,883
Carrollton Bank,	163,051	173,154
Citizens' Bank,	355,915	328,737
City Bank,	263,295	309,667
Commercial Bank,	404,466	419,705
Consolidated Bank,	83,996	79,363
Exchange Bank,	36,710	36,710
Gas Bank,	203,230	200,501
Improvement Bank,	195,612	191,982
Bank of Louisiana,	309 840	308,465
Louisiana State Bank,	151,923	149,437
Mechanics' Bank,	153,491	153,853
Merchants' Bank,	345,094	319,846
Orleans Bank,	201,310	190,184
Union Bank,	691,547	549,689
Atakapas Bank,	23,451	26,702
	$3,352,811	$3,418,237

From the report of the financial condition of the sixteen banks in New Orleans, it appears that their present circulation amounts to $7,500,713, and that the specie in their vaults is not less than $3,418,387. From the difference between their circulation on the 21 July and the 6th August, it is seen that it has suffered a diminution of $385,146, and that the specie in their vaults has increased within the same period, $125,513. The general opinion respecting business is, that it will assume during the ensuing winter all the vigor and activity which it has lost since the so pension. The prospect of the cotton and sugar crops in all the parishes is extremely favorable, and we have little doubt that the ensuing season will bring back confidence and revive the hopes of our merchants. Yesterday was the day fixed for resumption by the Banks of Pennsylvania and of several other States. Those of New York had paid specie since the 10th May last. Those of Ohio have close in the 12th for resumption, and we shall probably soon learn that nearly all the Banks of the South and West have followed the example of Pennsylvania. On banks also will be the sole financial institutions which will have determined upon nothing positive in the way of resumption—a measure rendered so imperative by the policy of other incorporations and so essential to their own credit and that of the State.

The nominal capital of our sixteen banks is $65,364,000, of which $41,218,590 were paid by the stockholders. The real active and other incorporations hold specie to the amount of $5,173,810. Their discounts and loans on pledges of bank stock and on stock of property banks as required by their charters are 99,119,266; on real estate, bills and notes, including capital of banks, $12,288,265. From this statement it appears that the same debts the Banks on stock, mortgages, &c. &c. &c. amount to,

Paris,	$8,773,818
Bordeaux,	9,110,3 [illegible]
Tours,	48,388,915
	$69,319,189

Our banks owe to foreign banks, or $377,084, and are [illegible]

[illegible] Weekly Messenger of July 7.

[illegible] appears to be a fight upon the [illegible] Texas and Mexico, but more in a little [illegible] Texas, [illegible] Mexicans, [illegible] Texans, [illegible] Mexicans [illegible] Texas [illegible] Mexicans [illegible] Texas [illegible] Mexicans [illegible] Texas