The New Orleans Bee.

OFFICE, 83 CHARTRES ST. NEW ORLEANS, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 21, 1856. VOL. XVII—NEW SERIES. VOL. XXX—WHOLE NO 10,186.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One Dollar an square for the first week, and Seventy-Five Cents for each subsequent week, unless otherwise contracted for at the time they deliver in such advertisements.

Advertisements on the first page $1 per square each insertion.

Advertisements inserted at intervals will be charged One Dollar for every TEN lines for each insertion.

The privilege of Annual Advertisers is limited to business strictly within the line of the business, and in extent to one square every other day.

THE DAILY BEE.

NEW ORLEANS, NOVEMBER 21, 1856.

Office of the Week.

Business are authorized to receive for the week, at the

AUTHOR'S SENTIMENT.

[illegible]

Singular Theory of the Mississippi River.

The Mississippi river is the greatest stream of the world. Its total length is 4,000 miles. On taking over a volume recently issued, entitled "Life on a Steamboat and Railroad Directory," we find the following instructive article on the waste of the waters of the Mississippi. It says:

No experience will enable a person to anticipate with any degree of certainty, the rise and fall of the flood in any given year. In some seasons the waters do not rise above their channel. In others, the entire lower valley of the Mississippi is submerged. Embankments, called levees, have been raised on the sides to ten feet high, on both sides of the river, extending many miles above and below New Orleans. By this means the river is restrained within its proper limits, except in the greatest freshets, when the waters sometimes break over everything, causing great destruction to property, and sometimes loss of life. The average height of the flood in the Delta is the junction of the Mississippi is above sixteen feet. At the mouth of the latter river it is twenty-five feet. Below the entrance of the Ohio river the rise is often fifty-five feet.

At Natchez it seldom exceeds thirty feet; at Red River it is about twelve feet. What causes the difference in the rise of the waters? It is known that the difference between high and low water mark, on high ground, is much greater between high and low water mark is only twelve feet, and yet little over three miles to the south. The width and depth of the river below the same, from which we calculate that there is six times as much water passes by the mouth of White river as by New Orleans, of a gauge with the current. The only solution offered, is that it escapes by the Lafourche, "Lafourche" and Atchafalaya. But when we calculate the width, depth and current of these bayous, they fall vastly short of affording a sufficient escape. The true explanation can, we think, be given.

Below water, throughout the whole extent, is a level structure exposed, underlying the bank, of that the alluvial structures on which the plantations are, is a structure of deposit made by the river above its low water mark, which, opposite to the mouth of White river, is thirty feet thick. As you descend, the river diminishes in volume and the difference between high and low water mark diminishes and nearly corresponds to it, and wherever the bottom is exposed it is seen that the bottom is *pure coarse sand*, including at many places the ocean shingle, through the superimposed alluvial structure is solid with fine sand. The water percolates through it freely and rapidly, and that the water is flowing at a considerable distance from the river banks, rises and falls with the rise and fall of the river, and varying in which it through the coarse sand and shingles. Upon this it passes as rapidly as through a common sieve.

By the accurate surveys of several scientific engineers, it is ascertained that the fall of the Mississippi river is four inches to the mile. The distance from Natchez to New Orleans is three hundred miles will give twelve hundred inches, or one hundred feet the depth of the river is less than fifty feet. Hence it is evident that the water percolates from the river through the deepest portion of the alluvial, and is finding its way through the coarse sand and shingles, which is elevated above the deepest portion of the river, and gives quantities of sand, which is found in the bottom of the river.

Below Donaldsonville, the river is seen to be in the same channel, and the same expression of the lines with the same uneven surface, and not any observations or surveys, to the west and establishes the fact of subsurface, and beyond the point of doubt, in fact, in judgment, the fact of the alluvial structure