

3.—*Journal of the Board of Public Works of the State of Georgia, at their First Session, held in Milledgeville, March, 1826.* Milledgeville. 8vo. pp. 13.

DURING the last session of the legislature of Georgia, an act was passed creating a Board of Public Works, and defining its duties. By this act the board consists of seven persons, in addition to the governor of the state; and the gentlemen, who have been appointed for the purpose by the legislature, are John Elliot, John Schly, John G. Pittman, Wilson Lumpkin, Joel Crawford, Elijah H. Burritt, James H. Cowper. The secretary and treasurer is Dr William Green. The first meeting of the Board was held on the twentieth of March last, when an appropriate address was delivered by governor Troup, as president, and the necessary preliminary arrangements for active operations were made. The general objects of the attention of the board may be understood by the following extract from the act defining its duties. 'The Board of Public Works, appointed by this legislature, shall so soon as they enter on the duties of their appointment, take into consideration the construction of an artificial canal between the Atlantic coast of the state, or the navigable waters which enter the sea, within the limits of the same, and the western limit of the present inhabited part of the state; and to search for, and investigate the best route by which such canal may be conducted, with the ultimate object of joining the waters of the Tennessee and Mississippi rivers; the canal to be so laid out as to run as near the centre of the state as may be convenient. And the Board of Public Works are further required to investigate and have surveyed the best routes by which canals may be united with the central canal, at the best and most convenient point to facilitate the communication with the Savannah river, and on the other side to join the next principal river on the south western side of the main canal abovementioned.'

From this section of the act it will be seen, that the views of the legislature of Georgia are broad and extensive. The beginning has also been considerate and judicious. Provision has as yet been made only for observations and surveys. A board of public works has been organized, and fifty thousand dollars appropriated for carrying these preliminary measures into effect, Mr Fulton, who has been for several years employed in North Carolina, is appointed chief engineer in Georgia, under the provisions of the above act, with a salary of five thousand dollars. Two assistant engineers, Elijah H. Burritt, and John Couty, have been appointed, each with a salary of twentyfive hundred dollars

a year. From these facts it is obvious, that the legislature are resolved to begin the work of internal improvements on a liberal scale, and to derive the advantage, which in other instances has been so much neglected, of early scientific aid. The pamphlet before us contains a detailed report of the proceedings of the Board at its first session, and an account of the arrangements made for entering speedily on active operations.

---

4.—*The Deformed Boy.* By THE AUTHOR OF 'REDWOOD.'  
Boston, 1826. 18mo. pp. 40.

THIS is a beautiful and affecting little story, worthy of the authoress of *Redwood*. Her writings uniformly inculcate the purest morality, that which rests upon consistent religious principles; and we have reason to congratulate ourselves when such writers exercise their powers for the improvement of children. The unthinking may consider it a humble and easy task, but there are those who can estimate it more justly, and prize it as it deserves.

The incidents of this little tale are striking, and they are stated to be true. They afford a view of those severe calamities to which the poor are exposed; especially the wives and children of the intemperate. Their sufferings ought to be pressed upon the attention, and as far as possible, brought home to the feelings of the rich and prosperous. Money, which might have been employed to relieve some of the most bitter evils to which man is exposed, is often wasted in merely idle self indulgence without any real gratification to those who thus misuse it. It is painful to know how much is often readily given to vanity, and how little at the same time is grudgingly yielded to benevolence and duty.

There is in this story a great deal of pathos, too much perhaps considering that it is designed for children. To a young person of much sensibility and tenderness, some parts of it must be distressingly painful. This is the only objection to the following scene. Few real or fictitious narratives present anything more touching. Mr Aikin's family are represented as assembled at breakfast; when, after a loud knocking at the door, a little boy, the deformed boy, is admitted.

'The boy seemed almost stiffened with the cold; but regardless of himself, and apparently impelled by instinct, he ran up to Mrs Aikin, and grasping her gown, he said, with a voice so tremulous as to be almost inaudible, "O Ma'am, do come and see what ails mother!"