

knowledge of "human natur." Taking out a pen knife, he cut off a splinter from a stick of firewood, and balancing himself on one leg of his chair, by the aid of his right foot, commenced his favorite amusement of whittling, which he generally pursued in silence. Indeed it appeared to have become with him an indispensable accompaniment of reflection. He sat in this abstracted manner, until he had manufactured into delicate shavings the whole of his raw materiel, when he very deliberately resumed a position of more ease and security, by resting his chair on two legs instead of one, and putting both his feet on the mantel piece. Then, lighting his cigar, he said in his usual quiet manner, there's a plaguy sight of truth in them are old proverbs. They are distilled facts steam-d down to an essence. They are like portable soup, an amazin deal of matter in a small compass. They are what I valy most, experience. Father used to say I'd as lives have an old homespun self taught doctor as are a Professor in the College at Philadelphia or New York to attend me ; for what they do know, they know by experience, and not by books ; and experience is every thing, its hearin and seein and tryin, and arter that a feller must be a born fool if he dont know. That's the beauty of old proverbs ; they are as true as a plum line, and as short and sweet as sugar candy. Now when you come to see all about this Country you'll find the truth of that are one—" *a man that has too many irons in the fire, is plaguy apt to get some on 'em burnt.*

Do you recollect that are tree I show'd you to Parrs-boro' ; it was all covered with *black knobs*, like a wart rubbed with caustic. Well, the plum trees had the same