

## **EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH**

### **A JEALOUS GHOST**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> Dr. Alva Morse was called to attend him at the hotel.

Being an old acquaintance of the patient, the doctor succeeded in eliciting all the facts which have been stated. The following is the report made at writer's request by the Doctor, soon after:

I found the patient lying upon the bed in a depressed condition. He had not removed his clothes. A close examination failed to discover any alarming symptoms. Pulse natural; head cool; pupils slightly dilated; no pain. There was a contusion on the side of his face as if from a blow. At first he seemed disinclined to tell how he received it, but finally told the following singular story." (Here follow the facts which have been already given.) "He expected me to ridicule his statement, and was somewhat surprised when I did not. I told him that I thought I could advance a theory that would explain his mystery. He evinced a sudden interest that strengthened my suspicion. "If you have any idea of who is at the bottom of it, Doctor," he exclaimed, "Out with it." He then got up and appeared quite animated.

"I don't think anybody is at the bottom of it, my dear sir," I replied, "but yourself. I look upon the occurrences to which you have attached a mysterious importance merely as the symptoms of a not very rare and not very dangerous nervous disease or group of diseases which for want of a better name is called hysteria. I don't think you have been struck at all. That which you have believed to be a blow was paroxysm, and is one of the curious phenomena which come on suddenly, without any premonition whatever, and occasionally takes this exact form.

"But," he said, "I was kicked, from one part of the room to another. You certainly do not mean to tell me that a morbid excitement of the nervous system will operate dynamically outside of myself in such a manner as to throw me five or six feet and leave the marks of the blow upon my body!"

**Register of Deeds  
Judy Lambert  
(continued)**