

EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH

GELCHER'S EXPERIENCE

He had now performed the easiest portion of the work and was making ready to stretch the carpet into place. She volunteered to hold the candle and he let her, at the same time remarking, that if she held that candle in that brilliant style, behind his head and back, so that he could see nothing, it might be well to blow it out in the start, as it would do just as much good and save the candle besides.

Thus refreshed he placed himself prone upon the floor, grasped the edge of the carpet firmly in both hands, raised his body slightly by bracing himself from his toes, gave a little spring to relieve the carpet of his weight, tugged suddenly to bring it into place, and losing his foothold through the treachery of his slippers he came flat to the floor with an "Ugh!" that rendered him at once breathless and disgusted.

Then he got up and turned upon his wife a face made up of dreadfully staring eyes, barked nose and mouth full of carpet wool, and wants to know what the devil she was laughing at, and if there was any joke he wanted to know it, by thunder.

She replied that she didn't know as there was much of a joke in having to mend a pair of pants that had given out in the back seam, the way his had, and she wished he'd be a little careful with his clothes the next time he undertook that thing.

He was desperate looking man, as he sat upon the floor pulling off his slippers and stockings so that he shouldn't slip again, and vowing that he'd have things as he wanted them. When he lay himself down to that job again, he seemed an enraged Hercules, so desperately and fiercely did he put himself to the work

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