

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

### **GELCHER'S EXPERIENCE**

The perspiration streamed from his flaming countenance, his jaws and the seams in his pants flew wider apart, the cords in his neck stood out, his shirt collar went by the board, but that carpet came into place with alacrity and a willingness that would have shamed India rubber.

Then he slowly let go with one hand and commenced to grope about in an exciting manner after the hammer and tacks with the other, but without success—they were at his left hand of course, and he must get them himself, as his wife couldn't be expected to push them toward him while she had so much to do in holding that heavy candle. He felt too proud and haughty to ask, her, so he commenced to operate in the direction of that hammer and those tacks by holding the carpet firmly in place with his left hand and endeavoring to turn himself completely over in order to reach the things with his right. Of course he mustn't lose his foothold, and it began to look as though he'd twist himself in two somewhere and lose all the advantage gained.

Slowly and sadly he commenced to turn toward the desired objects, and with his right hand wildly waving in the air, and every muscle, seam and button strained to the utmost, he gradually turned toward his wife, who was standing almost over him, in her interest in the transaction, a face so full of mingled pain, earnestness, remorse and despair that lady appalled by so starting a spectacle, grew somewhat nervous, tilted the candle a trifle and dropped into one of the eyes that stared at her so fixedly a considerable amount of hot tallow.

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