

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

### **IN BUSINESS HOURS**

“It’s a poor head that cannot bear a glass of wine,” said the young man. “Few heads can bear it in business hours,” was the reply. “So take a friend’s advice, Howard, and let the wine along.”

The last speaker was past the meridian of life. He had a care-worn face, and deep, thoughtful eyes. If you studied his countenance when in repose, you read in many of its lines a record of disappointment and heartache. The other was a handsome young man, with clear, confident eyes and a self-poised air. You saw that he had faith in himself—was hopeful and strong, and meant to win in the race of life.

“Why do you say in business hours, Mr. Clarkson?” inquired the young man, as he held the wine near his lips. “Because success in business requires a clear head; and no head is as clear after a glass of wine is taken as it was before.”

Mr. Clarkson said this so gravely and impressively that his companion was struck by his manner, and felt that he spoke from painful experience. He stood irresolute for a moment, and then set down the untasted glass of wine.

“Right, my young friend!” There was a tone of satisfaction in Mr. Clarkson’s voice. “But,” said Howard, as he moved back from a table covered with the daintiest refreshments and the choicest wines—surrounded by beauty and fashion—“I see many of our successful business men here, and they are taking wine freely. At a bridal reception no one can refuse.”

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