

EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH

IN BUSINESS HOURS

It was voted to pay in at once two dollars a share, or ten thousand dollars, in order to make a cash payment on the land, and to get funds for beginning immediately the work of opening the mine. The charter would come and the mine. The charter would come and the company organization proceeds in due course.

“I went away from that meeting feeling strangely. Ongoing to my store, I remember sitting down a desk and resting my head between my hands, trying to think just where I was and what I had been doing. I remember saying to myself as the excitement under which I had been laboring cooled down and my brain got clearer, ‘Have I been dreaming or acting the fool?’ I was doing a moderately profitable business that required careful working. My capital, while sufficient to ensure success, was not large, and needed to be well cared for and handled judiciously.

I could not take two thousand dollars away from it without deranging my calculations and limiting, in some degree, my operations. And yet, I put down my name for a thousand shares of stock, at a par value of fifty dollars each, and might be called on to pay assessments to the full amount.

“I felt the cold sweat on my forehead. I said to myself, ‘What came over me? I must have lost my senses!’ Then it flashed into my thoughts that the wine drunk at your sister’s reception had been the evil influence which led me astray-the blinding power that obscured my judgment. I was startled at the revelation-startled and ashamed.

“But there was no going back upon what I had done. I had entered into an honorable contract, and could not, without loss of business standing, refuse to meet its requirements. Your father came to see me late in the afternoon to talk over the new mining enterprise. I saw that his fine enthusiasm was gone.

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