

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

### **IN BUSINESS HOURS**

He did not fail to observe that in referring to the copper product his mind rested more upon the work that had to be done than on the splendid results to be obtained.

“He was not sure that the sanguine individual who had led us into the scheme was the cool, reliable man we needed for the management of our affairs in the mining region. His calm, strong, practical mind was going over the whole ground in sober earnest; and it was plain that the rosy hues which had so pleased our eyes a few hours before were fading fast away.

“But he was not one to look back after once putting his hands to any work. He was sensitive and proud, and more willing to face an enemy and dare a loss than to acknowledge a mistake. Under the influence of his unwanted enthusiasm he had drawn a number of capitalists and men of business into a mining enterprise, and he felt pledged to the work of its success.

“At an early day our charter was in hand, when an election of officers was held, and your father made President of the company. The care and work, the anxieties and disappointments he endured for the next year or two, in his efforts to manage the affairs of the company broke his spirits and impaired his health. Money was poured into the mine like water into sand; assessment after assessment was made until each shareholder had paid in thirty dollars a share.

“It was impossible for me to take thirty thousand dollars out of my business without destroying it; so I was forced to sell half of my stock at a loss of fifty cents on the dollar. I carried the balance at a crippling cost. Your father paid at each assessment, until he had sixty thousand dollars locked up in certificates, that commanded no dividends, and had ceased to be quoted at any price in the stock market.

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