

**EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY  
BY ELEANOR KIRK**

**THROUGH THORNS  
A GENUINE THANKSGIVING**

"I sometimes wish I hadn't a dollar in the world."

The speaker's tones were impatient, and her dark, luminous eyes flashed fire and dropped tears at the same time.

"Exactly! I don't wonder at it!" Said a young gentleman, rising from the sofa, where he had been partially reclining, and, to all appearance, very much at his ease. "I think I should wish the same thing, if I were in your place," he continued, carelessly. "Pon honor, Miss Blanche, I sympathize with you thoroughly. I must be hard to have to say 'No,' to so many; and then I suppose, you hate to call them all fortune-hunters. It must be a dreadful bore!" and the young man yawned, and looked at his watch.

"You are not going?" his companion inquired, as he stepped toward the door. "Yes, I must. I am already a full half-hour behind time, and my next patient is two miles away. Don't fret too much, Lady Blanche. There's nothing in life worth many tears!"

"That is the remark of a cynic, Doctor Drayton." "All the better for that. Your disease is a radical one, and needs radical treatment, and after a while we shall have a radical cure, showing itself by charming little womanly freaks, such as a flirtation now and then----"

"God forbid!" Was the earnest reply. "Rather sickness all the days of my life than such a cure as that." "Au revoir, then! If the illness were only in my line I'd have you well in a jiffy; but who can minister to a mind diseased, especially when the cause springs from superfluity of funds?"

"All the better for that."

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