EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY
BY H.E. SMITH

A JEALOUS GHOST

I won’t have my jaw mashed every day to establish anything.” “But my dear sir,” persisted the Doctor, “you desire certainly to have the mystery in your own mind cleared up. Consider that there are millions of human beings who desire the same thing. We have now an opportunity to prove beyond all doubt that an actual force with which we are unfamiliar is operating visibly upon us. I don’t hesitate to say that I consider this the most beautiful illustration that has come within the purview of advanced pneumatology.”

No definite arrangement was made, however, at that time. The next evening Dr. Forsythe prevailed upon Mr. Surden to accompany him to the O’Grady’s, and while there the Doctor directed her attention to the indentation made in the victim’s cheek, as if by the pressure of a triangular piece of metal. The edges of the triangle were marked by an inflamed line slightly abraded. She said she had noticed it before, because it reminded her of a row in which her husband became involved with a companion whom he had struck and who had carried the mark on his cheek for several years. It was caused by a blood stone ring cut into a triangle.

Mr. Surden, on hearing this, expressed himself satisfied, and said that he did not wish to stand in the way of an immortal prize-fighter.

The Doctor endeavored to persuade him that the interests of science and the well-being of mankind demanded a further investigation of the subject, and the O’Grady, somewhat nettled, joined in the conversation. Mr. Surden, who easily lost his temper, and who considered himself a much-abused man, expressed himself in rather warm terms, and high words ensued.

From the collated accounts it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that they quarreled. But we hesitate to believe that Dr. Forsythe, who is widely known as a peaceful and harmless member of society, could engage in a personal altercation such as is said to have followed.

Register of Deeds
Judy Lambert
(continued)