

July 17, 2019

This postcard (1912) is from a collection of Estella Biddle Taylor Steafather (1876-1945)

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

Sometimes the darndest things make a glint in research. Such was the case for Ruth Rode a few weeks ago when she was looking through the *Now & Then*, Vol. 1. This publication for the Press of the Muncy Luminary was in its second edition by J.M.M. Gerner. "Devoted to Local History, Amusement, Instruction and Advancement of the Borough and the Valley of Muncy, Penna." "A privately printed magazine published at irregular intervals between the years 1868 and 1878." "We take no note of time but from its loss. To give it then a tongue is was in man." The cost stated on the booklet is \$2.00. Now onto Ruth's find:

In Vol. 1, No.5 on the third page of the section, bottom of first column: "Four enormous eels were caught in a fish basket at the out-let of Hunter's Lake, on the 11th ult. The largest weighed 9 pounds, and the four weighed 27 pounds."

Looking up information on eels, they can be up to 4 feet long, and up to 17 pounds and can live as long as 25 years in fresh or salt water, and that there are 400 species. For this writer, having accompanied adults in my younger years on the Susquehanna River, we row boated out in the night and used lanterns to gaff and net them. But you can line fish for them too.

Anyway, our point here is that the *Now & Then* publications very often included portions of Sullivan County History and this was just the first of many.

Don't forget that the Annual Dinner is coming up on Thursday, Aug. 8th at 6 p.m. at the Forksville Inn on Route 87 south of Forksville. Pre-payment of \$15/person for the dinner is required to be at the museum by 5 p.m. on Sat. Aug. 3rd. All are welcome. The speaker this year is Craig Harting, chief executive officer of the Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. talking about the history of the electric company.

You can contact YOUR museum by phoning 570-946-5020 or emailing museum@scpahistory.com and check out our web site at www.scpahistory.com and please like us on Facebook.

