



Stanley and Katherine Sharrow May at home.

Oct. 5, 2016

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

Going back to the publication by Howard Peterman (1907-2008), the story we're about to relate came about when Sullivan County Commissioner, Brian Hoffman, was helping to load the material that this Society was taking to the Sullivan County Fair in the end of August. Brian noticed a stack of Mr. Peterman's books in the storage tub that would be going along for sale and mentioned that he felt one of the reflections pertained to a family member of his. Following the fair, Brian allowed an interview which although cannot be proved, (because Mr. Peterman did not divulge the individual's name) leaves a lot of speculation as to the identity.

On page 53 of *Letters From Elizabethtown – Memories of Sullivan County Man*, the piece is entitled 'Memories of When It Was Different':

"In 1918, I (Howard Peterman) was along when Dad (Glen Peterman 1877-1929) took a World War I veteran to Williamsport. He had been a victim of mustard gas and went to the Rothfuss Clinic on Market Street, north of 4th (street).

The rest of the piece goes on to talk about Mr. Peterman's city life versus country life but that first paragraph was of interest to Brian because it is his contention that the veteran may have been his great-grandfather, Stanley May who'd been born on April 25th, 1894 and died at 70 years of age on Sept. 26, 1964. His wife was the former Katherine Sharrow. Brian had been told by his grandmother, Mildred May Hoffman, daughter of Stanley and Katherine, that Stanley had lost a lung to mustard gas in WWI. Also that Stanley May and Glen Peterman lived near one another in Nordmont and that both were farmers.

So the possibility exists that Stanley May and the unnamed character in Mr. Peterman's book are the same, not for darned sure but pretty possible.