



Aug. 9, 2017

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY . . . while dusting

Due to the upcoming Sullivan County Historical Society annual dinner meeting to be held Thurs. Aug. 17th (dinner at 6, meeting and speaker at 7 p.m.) we were looking thru the lumber compiling of background information available at the museum. The dinner is \$15/person to be prepaid by Sat. Aug 12th at the museum. The speaker is Marc Lewis of Hillsgrove to talk on old time implements used by lumbermen way back when. This event is open to the public and if you choose to only come to hear Marc and not the dinner, it is free, again all are welcome. Anyway, something timely for summer popped out from reviewing this compiling.

A letter from the Ingham papers dated 1917 about a lumber lease, had on the back of the following poem:

“Sleep, Little Birdling

Sleep, little bird in the treetop,
Rocked by the winds of the night;
Slumber and rest there in your nest,
Until the morning so bright.
Stars looking down through the branches,
Watch o’er you slumbers will keep;
Gentle winds blow, whispering low,
Sleep, little birdling, sleep.”

To have found this unauthored poem typed on the back of a file copy of a very serious letter shows not only the value of the paper itself but also someone’s appreciation of poetry and nature. While writing this piece a bird has nested atop an outside light fixture at the entrance wall of the museum and the Baldwin House yard and gardens is alight with bird activity, especially the hummingbirds partaking of a wide variety of flower nectar. Nature abounds in Sullivan County but all too often we seem in such a hurry to live life that we appear not to have or to take the time to see the life living in and about us. So, the next time you find it possible to steal your sanity away from the chaos of too busy a scheduling, why not try watching a bird, or a bug, or even a mouse or deer. Their adventure in life is much shorter than yours, yet they seem to go on about the business of life with a much calmer demeanor than we humans do. And no matter the generation, this seems to have been the case in past as well as the present.

To come visit the museum we’re open until the Sullivan County Fair on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5. For another time or after we officially close, phone 570-946-5020 or use our email address museum@scpahistory.com and please like us on Facebook.