

May 19, 2021

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

Many years ago, people gave speeches at organization events. Those speeches were very often written out by the person giving the talk so as to not overlook or forget portions of the points they were trying to make. One example is the recently transcribed Sullivan Review's printing of Joseph Ingham's the History of Sullivan County. Mr. Ingham met with many people over quite a long period of time to ask them if he could utilize their speech material to then incorporate said information into his book of history. The outcome was an enormous amount of historical background that otherwise would have been lost to us today.

For this article, we've come across what appears to be a typed version of someone's notes to themselves about a (possible) speech. It is not attributed to the writer, nor is it dated but the contents are quite interesting.

- McFarlane farm – Max Bower bought and made pond – overlooks Tanny Town, once the site of a gigantic tannery operation, containing the tannery barns, more than 30 dwelling house and other buildings, plus the railroad which transported the hides to and from the area. All now green fields and woods reverting to forest cover.
- Mrs. Ida Cheney – her father was T.J. Keeler, born 1865 on North Mountain near Nordmont. His father made the first clearing ever made over there and build a log cabin (where T.G. was born).
- Mrs. Olive Barrows Bradshaw, died Spt. 28, 1958, at her home in NYC. Born May 14, 1888, daughter of Joseph and Louise Lauer Barrows. Granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moritz C. Lauer – niece of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ellery P. Ingham. In 1958 Mrs. Bradshaw initiated the drive to have memorial shade trees planted in the park and along the streets of Laporte, to replace many of the large maples that are dying. By the summer of 1958 more than 130 trees have been pledged or planted.
- Marie remembers wooden plank sidewalk from Blacks on down to Cosgroves – big moss covered well where everyone came for water, down from Blacks.
- Jan. 1894 – The Lawrence Bros. have a derrick erected at their stone quarry where they are engaged in mining stone for the foundation of the new court house. On Sat. the ropes at the top of the derrick got out of order and O. W. Grim, who was one of the spectators present, volunteered to climb the derrick pole and make the repairs good. While thus engaged the pole gave away throwing Ollie to the ground a distance of 20 or 30 feet, bruising him quite badly.
- We are authorized to announce that services will be held in St. John's Episcopal church at Laporte on Sunday next, May 15; in the morning at 10:30 – evening at 7:30. The Rev'd John W. Burras of Pittston will officiate. Hole Communion at morning service. 1892

As you can see, the speaker's subjects were varied but interesting. We'll continue next week but for now you can contact the museum for an appointment by phoning 570-946-5020 or emailing museum@scpahistory.com or check our web site at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook.