



Sept. 1, 2021 Touring

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . .
while dusting

This is the final installment for the history of Forks Township as written for the Sullivan County Herald in 1919.

“Another son, Edward, remained on a farm in England. Before the vessel started officers came aboard the ship to arrest him [William Molyneux], but he feigned insanity and the officers failed to recognize him. Without further molestation he again reached America, which was to him indeed a land of the free.

“He brought his three children to the house he had erected in the wilderness and cleared up his farm, on which he lived for an additional fifty-three years, and on which he died at the age of eighty-eight.

“John Molyneux, the oldest son of William Molyneux, located on his father's farm, which was later owned by his sons William and Thomas Molyneux. In their present forms the two farms are owned by Herbert L. Molyneux and John T. Molyneux. [Remember, this was written in 1919.]

“Edward Molyneux, the second son of William Molyneux, did not come to America with the family, but remained in England until he reached his majority, when he joined the family at Millview. He located on the hill near Millview on the farm now owned by his son, David Molyneux.

“Thomas Molyneux, the third son, came to America in 1795 with his father and eventually built a gristmill near Millview, which was destroyed by fire. He then built a large stone dam near Millview with a gristmill and a sawmill about 1847. Both mills burned about a year later. After this Thomas Molyneux went to Wisconsin, but the stone dam is still at Millview. Millview made a fair bid to become a thriving village. A township was made. William and Thomas built a sawmill on their lands and engaged in lumbering. The town contained two blacksmith shops, a wheel-right shop, tailor shop, and cabinet shop at one time. The Bird's also built a sawmill above Millview on the Little Loyalsock, and 50 years ago numerous rafts of lumber were floated every spring from these mills down the Loyalsock Creek to the markets along the Susquehanna River.”

This saga of just one of the many families that established themselves in what became known as Sullivan County. This description shows the determination of those that have gone before us. If you say you're from Sullivan County – either a ridge runner or a flat lander – we all represent people from other areas of both this country and abroad. And that stick-to-itiveness exist in all of us, of all generations, to appreciate and enjoy what Sullivan County has to offer.

To contact the museum, now that we're not officially open, you can phone 570-946-5020 or email museum@scpahistory.com. Also visit our website at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook. If by chance you drive by the museum (behind the courthouse in Laporte) and see the 'open' sign in the window: stop in. Personal schedules and weather permitting, we try to be in on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Photo: The Molyneux homestead located on Rt. 87 in Millview was built in 1822 by Thomas Molyneux son of William (d. 1848 in the home). Post Office would have been in front, maple grove directly across, blacksmith and wheelwright towards where hotel is now, a store aside the home and a school in the V between Rt 87 and Spur road.