

Milford Times – July 24, 1925

Drove Stage on Catskill Turnpike

P.C. Slougher has been showing us a recent copy of the Ithaca (N.Y.) Times-News, which contains a very interesting and lengthy article relating to the development of the Catskill Turnpike, one of New York's most famous highways. Once an Indian trail, it traverses the region made famous by Hendrick Hudson and by Washington Irving, and in the early days has played an important part in the development of western and central New York.

Mr. Slougher comes into the story in the following paragraph:

“Probably there is only one man living who drove stage on the Catskill Turnpike. This man is P.C. Slougher, now residing at Milford, Michigan, a brother of the above-mentioned Irus Slougher, of Slaterville Springs. In reply to inquiries, he wrote the writer in February last, as follows:

“You wrote me some time ago asking what I can remember about my driving stage on the Catskill Turnpike from Ithaca to Lisle. Some called it Mud Lick. We used to stop at Boiceville, Slaterville and Tobeytown, the other names I have forgotten. If I remember right, I made two trips a week, up one day and back the next. The road was very rough and bad. I drove two horses. This is as near as I can remember, it has been so long since that it has practically passed out of my mind.” A fair memory we would say after 68 years. Mr. Slougher speaks the stage business had dwindled to a great extent, and was not to be compared with that which existed in the previous generation. The father of this stage driver emigrated from Ulster county.”