



Dushore 1898 fire

July 1, 2020

TOURING SULLIVAN
COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . .
while dusting

To continue from last week's article with mention of a fire in Dushore in 1898: many's the time that fire destroyed town blocks, barns and homes pre-fire companies. In fact, originally the fire house

for Dushore was the present-day Sullivan Review office. So here is an article from the Sullivan Review of June 9, 1898:

"Damage by Fire – An alarm of fire about 6:30 o'clock last Sunday afternoon caused all Dushore to leave the supper table and dressed in their best Sunday clothes to rush to the scene of the conflagration. Fire had been discovered in the cellar of Tubach's furniture store, adjoining Cole's Hardware in on side and J.H. Younkin's harness, carriage and agricultural implements on the other. The fire ran along the floors, and the spaces between the walls, and proved very stubborn and hard to control, breaking out in unexpected places just as it was supposed to be exterminated.

"A light wind blew the smoke toward the block of which the Review building is a part [that was where the Dushore Market is today], and for a while it seemed certain that almost the entire business portion of the town must go. While the danger was at its height a hurried council of the principal business men was called and it was voted to ask Towanda for assistance. The Towanda company was ready to come, when it became evident that the fire was under control and they were so informed by telephone.

"An overweighted ladder broke and gave several young men a bad tumble. Dana Carpenter was in the bottom of the pile and got a bad rap on the head with a hose nozzle, and was unconscious for several hours, but is all right at present and has resumed his place behind Hoffa's counter. James Cook, an employee of Cole's Hardware, was less fortunate. He was overcome by the smoke and tumbled headlong down a steep stairway, receiving internal injuries that caused his friends grave alarm and that still confined him to his bed. He is reported as improving and it is hoped he will soon entirely recover. Several others received slight bumps and the boys generally ruined their best clothes.

Enough water was poured on the fire to float a man of war, and it is still a wonder how the fire was controlled. The entire stock of goods from Cole's Hardware was thrown into the street and badly broken and damaged by water and rough usage. The stock was worth between \$6,000 and \$7,000 and was insured for \$3,000. It was carried back the next day and re-arranged as far as possible pending the appraisalment by the insurance people. The building is owned by Chas. Biddle and was damaged by smoke and water. Insurance, \$1,800. The Tubach block was in two distinct sections, one owned by Philip J. Tubach and insured for \$1,000,

the other half is owned by Philip J. Tubach, Sr., and was insured for \$1,000. Both badly damaged. The furniture stock of Emil F. Tubach was nearly wrecked, and insured for \$1,500. J.H. Yonkin estimates his loss at from \$300 to \$500 uninsured.”

To contact the museum for an appointment, please either phone 570-946-5020 or email museum@scpahistory.com ahead of time. Meanwhile visit our web site at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook.