



June 24, 2020

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

In 1945 a man named M. A. Scureman wrote an article for the Sullivan Review entitled "Dushore in the Early Days". He wrote from Wilkes-Barre but stated that he'd been from Dushore until 1902 when he moved to Kingston. Mr. Scureman was born in Dushore in 1870 to Appollas and Lydia Wilt Scureman. He was married to Blanch Arey. He'd written to his old friend "Bay" Martin the then owner of the Sullivan Review (1916-1959). Scureman stated that he'd been born "in a small squatty house where Holcombe furniture and undertaking stores now stand and am approaching the age of 75". Here will be just a portion of his article:

"My father once mentioned the Strey Hotel which occupied the space now covered by Cole's Hardware and the Tubach furniture stores. I remarked that I saw the fire that burned it [1898 photos from the museum collection], whereupon father contended that it had burned before I was born. In the argument which ensued I described the building in detail, told him of the open porch in front, the location of the office, the billiard parlor on the lower level with entrance from Water street, where I was in the habit of finding him to get pennies, the "Punch & Judy" shows on the third floor, the greyhound which burned in the fire, etc. Father then fixed the date of the fire as Sept. 1874 which I was but little more than four years of age. The date was fixed by means of finding the termination of charges for meat to the hotel on father's old meat market books.

"My earliest recollection of the spot where the bank [M&T today] now stands is when a small one-story building stood there, leaving room for a driveway, and was occupied as a barber shop by a colored man name Bill Weary. Later by Charlie Croll and still later by Harry Hoffa as a harness shop. [This was all before the installation of Route 220.]

"The three-story Pealer building then housed the I.O.O.F. on the third floor and Jake Pearler's [sp.-Pealer] shoe store on the ground floor. This store room was occupied by several others before Geo. W. Hayman, among them, F. P. Vincent's clothing store, Dan Pealer's shoe shop, and it was the first home of the Enterprise Store."

This particular rendition of memories goes on about Dushore in its early years. We'll continue next with about a major fire in Dushore as referred to in this article.

To visit the museum please phone 570-946-5020 ahead of time for an appointment as we are not official open this summer due to Corona virus. Meanwhile, visit our web site at www.scpahistory.com and like us on Facebook. You can also email us at museum@scpahistory.com