Evening Telegraph and Star and Sheffield Daily Times, 1st October, 1891

Fire in Sheffield The Brigade at Work for Twelve Hours

At a quarter-past three this morning a telephonic message was received at the Central Fire Station to the effect that a fire had broken out on the premises occupied by Messrs. Arthur George Lee, and Walter Lee, joiners and undertakers, in Bromley street. The building has three stories, the upper portion utilised by Messrs. Lee for the storage of timber used in their vocation. The large quantities of pitch pine stored rendered the property more than ordinarily inflammable. The lower portion of the premises were used as a green grocery store, and stables by a man named Renshaw. At the time of the outbreak there were a horse and a number of pigs and fowls on the premises. Superintendent Pound, with four firemen, and the tender, were early on the scene, but the roof was already blazing fiercely when they arrived. The efforts of the firemen were directed to the work of preventing the fire from spreading, the burning premises being situated in a very popular centre. The walls and roof soon fell in upon the timber, and from the time of their arrival on the scene until a quarter-past-three this afternoon the brigade were employed in laborious work, many tons of timber having to be dragged from under the debris of the fallen walls and removed to a place of safety. The superintendent describes the work as the hardest the brigade have been called upon to perform in a long time. The damage to the premises is very extensive. The origin of the outbreak is unknown. There was no fire on the premises, and it is probable that a spark from a neighbouring chimney ignited some inflammable substance, and this led to the disaster. The owner of the property left the premises at four-o'clock on Monday afternoon, when everything was safe. The live stock were removed unhurt soon after the fire was discovered.