From Arlington to Lebanon by Rail

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(Rolla Herald, March 10, 1870)—Having a little leisure time last week, we visited Lebanon and intermediate points. Leaving Rolla on the six a.m. train, we arrived, after a short run, at the ancient and deserted town of

ARLINGTON

the recent terminus of the South Pacific Railroad. Our stay here was short—only about five minutes. We missed here the busy scene of a few months ago, when Arlington was the busiest little burg in the Southwest. Crossing the Gasconade at this point, we were ushered into the town of

JEROME

where the brakeman's familiar voice sang out "thirty minutes for breakfast." As we had taken on that article before leaving home, we had time, while others were refreshing themselves, to take a stroll around town. Meeting our fellow townsmen Capt. Peck and Thos. Nevins, they informed us that the Railroad company would commence the erection of a freight and passenger depot at this place in a few days. We noticed considerable activity about the shops and mills of this place, of which there are four. Jerome is destined at no future day, to be the largest manufacturing town in the State. Capitalists are now contemplating the building of manufactories at this place.

Time being up, we left Jerome and in the course of a hour, we were landed at

DIXON

a young town in the North-west corner of Pulaski County, recently laid out by our fellow townsman, Milton Santee, esq. Although a new place, Dixon is destined to be a lively little place. Situated in the heart of a richly timbered country, and in close proximity to the rich farming country of the Gasconade river, it enjoys a very lucrative trade. Among the citizens of Dixon, we has the pleasure of meeting Messrs. Franklin and Co.,Messrs. Scott and Pruett, Judge J.G. Burnett, Chestine Miller, and others.

We took passage for the new and somewhat hastily built town of

CROCKER

where we arrived just in time to witness a grand "Shoo fly" performance by a celebrated burnt corkist, at Cooke's Opera House. Cooke, ye telegraph man, feeling the necessity of having some sort of amusement to kill the dull monotony of village life, generously tendered his office for that purpose. Crocker is still in its infancy, and contains as yet but few houses, and yet the principal business houses of Humboldt (three-quarters of a mile back of the depot) have not "moved over" to swell the population and business of Crocker, But we were informed that in a short time, Mr. Feibleman, an old and substantial merchant of Humboldt, will build a business house at the depot. Here we met several old friends of by-gone days, W.W. McDonald, esq., Capt. D.G. Tallent, Joe Feibleman and Capt. S. Grayson.

After spending the night at Crocker, we took the first westward bound train for

RICHLAND

This place has recently assumed the dignity of a town, and by far the most thriving little place between Rolla and Lebanon. The town gives evidence of thrift, enterprise and happiness. Located in a rich section of country, it undoubtedly will be the principal town in Pulaski County. Refined society, life and energy, is the general make-up of this pleasant little village.

Here we met several of our old friends—some who had shared with us the hardships of the "tented field," the marches and the dangers incident to the life of a soldier. We were agreeably surprised to find so permanent a place, and supporting so many business houses. Messrs. Traw and Bradshaw are doing a splendid business in the dry goods and grocery line. Messrs. Robertson and Harris, dry goods, and c., are adding to their building to make room for a large spring stock.

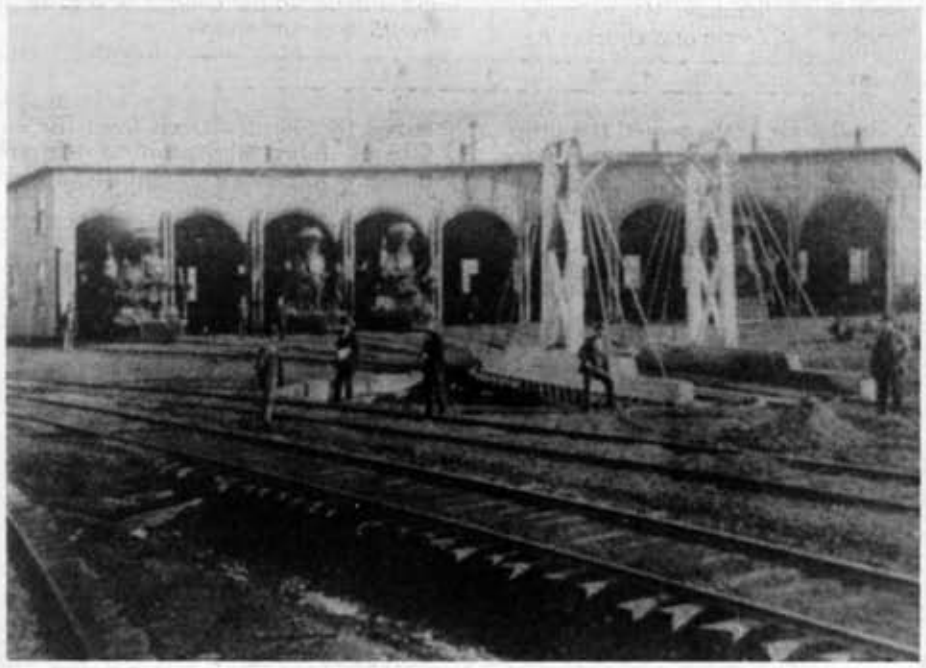
J. Feibleman, dry goods and c., under the charge of our estimable young friend, Charley Howard, Gibson and Warner, dry goods and c., Colley, druggists, D.E. Davis, Furniture. We noticed several new houses in course of construction, among others a new hotel. Dr.Tyree certainly deserves credit for his taste in building a residence, which is decidely the handsomest building that came under our observation.

To our friends at Richland, and especially to Dr. Tyree and F.L. Withaup, esq., we are indebted for their kindness to us while at their place.

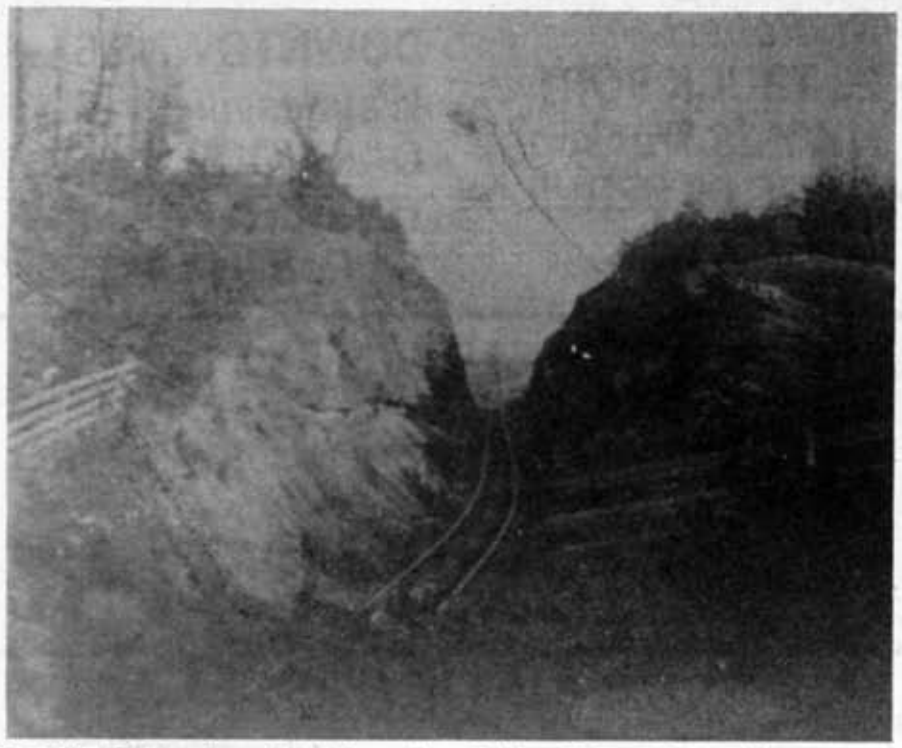
After spending a day at Richland, we took cars for

LEBANON

where we spent a day pleasantly among our friends. We met here Frank Rogers and O'Brien and Bro., a trio of Rollaites doing business at that place. We wound up by calling at the "Leader" office, where we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Combs, the publisher, and Mr. Farris. Our trip was a pleasant one, and we trust we may have time to repeat it ere long.



Dixon Roundhouse (Photo courtesy of Carol Muennig)



Dixon Hill St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad late 1800's. (Photo courtesy of Carol Muennig)

The rails in downtown Newburg.