

## Elijah Acton, Sr.

( 1806 - 13 Feb 1886)

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**Acton.** At 1:30 p.m., on Saturday, February 13, 1886, Elijah Acton, in the eightieth year of his age. Funeral will take place from the residence of his son, 104 Fourth street southeast on Monday at 3 p.m. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

*The Evening Star, February 15, 1886, p. 3*

### **Death of an Old Resident**

Elijah Acton, for the past half a century a resident of east Washington, died at his home, 104 4<sup>th</sup> street southeast, Saturday, after a brief illness. Mr. Acton was a native of Charles county, Md., where he was born in 1806. When 36 years old he came to this city, and for the past forty years he was employed in the navy yard as a blacksmith. Deceased was one of the original members of Osage tribe of Red Men. His funeral took place this afternoon at three o'clock from his late residence.

*The Washington Critic, February 15, 1886, p. 1*

### **East Washington**

Mr. Elijah Acton, one of the oldest residents in East Washington, died at the house of his son, Policeman Joseph Acton, 104 Fourth street southeast, last Saturday and was buried at the Congressional Cemetery this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mr. Acton was born in Charles County, Md., in 1806 and came to this city more than half a century ago and took up his residence in this section of the city, where he has remained ever since. He was employed in the Navy Yard as a blacksmith for more than forty years. He was one of the earliest members of Logan Tribe of Red Men. He was a man of sterling character and integrity and leaves a wide circle of friends.

*The Evening Star, February 21, 1885, p. 3*

### **Saving The Cornerstone**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 1848, as the large block of marble which was set as the corner-stone of the Washington monument was being hauled to the foundation, the truck bearing the stone broke through the 14<sup>th</sup> street bridge over the canal. This fact becoming known at the navy yard, at the noon hour the workmen offered their services to get the stone out. This movement was seconded by the officers of the yard, and Gen. Henderson, of the Marine corps, detailing field music, marshaled the line up Pennsylvania avenue to 14<sup>th</sup> street, where the truck lay in the mud. In the line were the following, who are still living: William Bland, James Wilson, James Marceron, Richard Warner, Robert Padgett, Jeremiah Cross, John Moss, Thomas Mitchell, W.E. Hutchinson, James Burdine, Charles Burgess, James Burgess, Theodore Sniffen, John Cook, Stanislaus Edelin, Dennis Callaghan, John Ober, John H. Peake, James T. Boiseau, Joseph T. Mitchell, John F. Tucker, James Kealy, William Hardy, Walter Hardy, John Pic, George R. Wilson, Lemuel Gaddis, Thomas Arnold, Randall Cook, William Cook, John Simmons, E.B. Duvall, William Bayley, J.N. Gates, Thomas Luxon, Michael Robb, William Quigley, William Brown, Thomas Mackey, **Elijah Acton**, Alexander Maddox, Thomas J. Harrison and William Young. As the line moved up the avenue others joined and there were about 1,000 persons collected in the vicinity of the bridge. The task of blocking up the truck was soon performed by the construction men, and two long lines of rope attached to the truck were manned. The music then struck up and the stone was hauled to its destination. The stone and truck were decorated with flags, and on it was a live eagle.