Thomas Vickers

(22 Aug 1788 - 2 Nov 1866)

The Evening Star, November 3, 1866

Death of Sergeant Thomas Vickers

Died at the Washington Arsenal, on the 1st instant, Sergeant Thomas Vickers, of the Ordnance Department United States army, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. He was born in Shadlow, England, August 22, 1788, enlisted in the Coldstream Guards, September 19, 1806, and participated with his regiment before Copenhagen, at Bruges, Fuentez D'Onor, Salamanca, Vittoria, and Waterloo, the storming of Ciudad Roderigo, and the sieges of Burgos, St. Sebastian, and Bayonne. In 1831 he enlisted in the United States army, and served in the 1st artillery during the Florida war, and, as "Corporal Vickers," was commended in the official report for gallantry in the affair at Fort Drane, June, 1836. In this same year he joined, by enlistment the Ordnance Department, at Washington Arsenal, where he served continuously up to the day of his death, faithfully in the discharge of his duties, and always conspicuous for his soldier-like bearing and deference to his superiors.

He was in truth a soldier--

"All of the olden time."

The personal resemblance of the veteran sergeant to the Duke of Wellington was remarkable, and so much so as to have attracted the attention of Lord Lyons, the late British Minister, on an occasion of a visit to the Arsenal, and who often and kindly asked for the "Old Duke."

Sergeant Vickers was in faith an Episcopalian, and a member and communicant of Grace Church, Island, from which church his funeral will take place on Sunday next, at 2 o'clock p.m., and to which his friends are respectfully invited to attend.

The Evening Star, November 5, 1866

Funeral of Sergeant Vickers

Yesterday, the funeral of the late Sergeant Thomas Vickers, a veteran soldier of the Ordnance branch of the service, took place from Grace Church, South Washington. There was present a large number of the officers and men of the Ordnance Department, the Ordnance men of the arsenal being present in a body, and a large number of the civilian employees. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Holmead, the Rector of the Church, who paid a feeling tribute to the memory of the deceased.