



E. T. Bedford,  
J.H. 1913.

**CAPTAIN EDWARD TERKENCE BEDFORD, R.G.A.,** who was killed on May 28, aged 23, while acting as observation officer for his battery, was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bedford, of Delbrook, Belvedere, Kent. He was educated at Tonbridge School, and passed into Woolwich in 1913. When war broke out he received his commission, and went to the front in September, 1915, remaining there up to the time of his death. His battery major writes:—"He was always the first into danger, the first to consider the welfare of others, and the last to worry about his own comfort. His great gift of cheerfulness and good spirits made him the finest character it has been my good fortune to meet." His brigade colonel also writes:—"He is a great loss to us all, beloved by his men and his brother officers, a most cheery and gallant soul, and one who has served his country well. I had recommended him for the command of a battery. . . . He was an officer of the best stamp."

S  
I  
I  
I  
t  
h  
a  
i  
r  
a  
b  
s  
v  
f  
q  
t  
a



he was Chief Paymaster of the London District from 1910 till August, 1914.

He served in France for more than five years from August 12th, 1914, and from December 31st, 1918, till October 9th, 1919, was Paymaster-in-Chief, British Forces in France, with the temporary rank of Brigadier-General. During this period he took but six weeks' leave, since absence involved such arrears of work on return; and the strain had told on him severely. Moreover, whilst touring in Belgium on Inspection Duty, in February, 1919, he received an injury to the head in a motor accident. On his return from France in October, 1919, he was appointed Chief Paymaster, Scottish Command, and this appointment he held till he retired and was granted the honorary rank of Brigadier-General, on June 8th, 1920.

For his services in France he was mentioned in the Despatches dated November 20th, 1914, November 13th, 1916, and April 17th, 1918; whilst the award of the C.M.G. appeared in the *Gazette* of February 18th, 1915, and that of the C.B. in the Birthday Honours List of 1918.

The combined result of his accident and of the strain of his war service was a complete breakdown, with paralysis and loss of memory, in July, 1920, and after a lingering illness he died on November 15th, 1921.

CAPT.

EDWARD TERENCE BEDFORD,  
34TH SIEGE BATTERY, R.G.A.

KILLED IN ACTION NEAR BEUGNY, N.E.  
OF BAPAUME, MAY 28TH, 1917. AGED  
22.

At the School 1908—13 (Judde House).

Capt. E. T. Bedford was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bedford, of Delbrook, Belvedere, Kent. Entering the School in January, 1908, from the Blackheath Proprietary School, he left from the Army Class in July, 1913, having passed into Woolwich, and was still at the R.M.A. when war broke out. He was promoted Corporal there in August, and received his commission in the R.G.A., September 16th, 1914. After doing duty for a time at Felixstowe he was posted to the 34th

Siege Battery at Harwich, with which he remained to the end. He was promoted Lieutenant, June 9th, 1915, and, going out to France with his Battery in September, 1915, served all through the advance at Loos and the fighting on the Somme and elsewhere till the date of his death. He had been promoted Acting Captain, November 27th, 1916, as Second in Command of the Battery, and would shortly have been given command of a Battery. On May 28th, 1917, he was on duty for his Battery at an observation post with one of his subalterns and an Australian F.A. officer, when he was killed and the others were both wounded by the same shell. A splinter had pierced his heart and death was instantaneous. He was buried in the village churchyard of Beugny, near Bapaume.

All letters testify to his great popularity and to the esteem in which he was held by all. "Men like him," wrote the Chaplain, "are the very 'salt of the Army': they help other lesser men to 'carry on.'"

A brother Officer, his greatest friend, who had been for some time in command of another Battery, wrote:—

"He was a perfect soldier and friend, loved by all the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the battery. Always happy and extraordinarily cheerful, always volunteering for any work, he made us smile when things looked worst, and laugh at our own discomforts."

His Battery Commander wrote:—

"I can truthfully say that I have never met any one who was so well liked and loved by one and all, as your son. He was always the first into danger, the first to consider the welfare of others, and the last to worry about his own comfort."

"His great gift of cheerfulness and good spirits made him the finest character it has been my good fortune to meet."

"The whole battery is shocked and grieved, and we well know that his place can never be filled again. We all realise it was his influence and example that made and kept the Battery up to its high standard."

His Brigade Commander wrote:—

"He is a great loss to us all, beloved by his men, and his brother officers, a most cheery and gallant soul, and one who has served his country well. I had recommended him for the command of a battery. . . . He was an officer of the best stamp."