SAW PRESIDENT LINCOLN SHOT

Major E. E. Bedee Dies at Plymouth, N H.

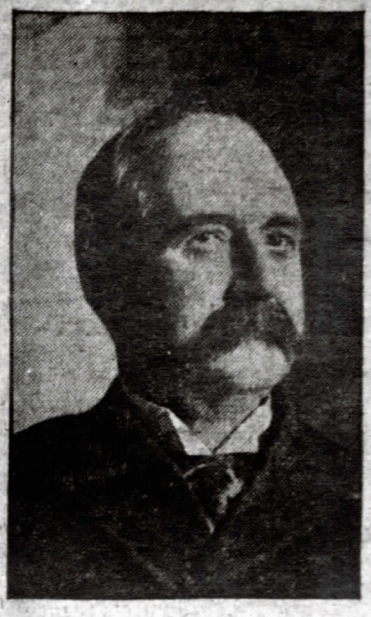
Veteran of Civil War, Serving With Army of Potomac.

Made Fortune in Diamond Fields of Africa.

PLYMOUTH, N H, Jan 13—Maj E. E. Bedee died at the Pemigewasset house at noon today, after a brief illness, resulting from a shock.

Maj Bedee was born in Sandwich, Jan 8, 1837. He was unmarried, a retired business man and broker, and devoted his time in fishing and hunting up to a short time ago, when his health compelled him to relinquish these pastimes.

Maj Bedee secured his early education in the towns of Sandwich and Meredith. At the age of 24 he enlisted for service in the civil war and became a member of the 12th NH regt vols from Meredith. His war record was a most enviable one. He enlisted Aug 18, 1862. He was mustered in Sept 20, 1862, as sergeant major; appointed first lieutenant Co G, Dec 22, 1862; wounded May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va; appointed captain May 12, 1863; wounded severely June 4, 1864, at Cold Harbor, Va; captured as prisoner Nov 17, 1864, Bermuda Hundred, Va; paroled Feb 22, 1865, James river; appointed major May 26, 1865; mustered out June 21, 1865, as captain.



MAJ E. E. BEDEE.

Maj Bedee was an eyewitness to the shooting of President Lincoln, and it was to Maj Bedee that Mrs Lincoln intrusted the care of President Lincoln's private papers which were found in the coat worn by the President at the time of the shooting. He assisted in caring for the President until he died.

The papers he delivered to the secretary of war soon after the death of the President, but through a serious mistake on the part of some one in the war department, it was supposed the papers entrusted to Maj Bedee by Mrs Lincoln had not been delivered to the proper authorities, he was placed under arrest by the war department, but was soon after released when it became known he had attended strictly to his duty, in delivery of the same to the war department at the first opportunity, and that department publicly exonerated him and an apology was made for the mistake.

Soon after the close of the war, Maj Bedee went to South Africa, and there made a fortune in the diamond fields. He was there about seven years when he sold out his claims to the rich holdings in South Africa, and returned to Boston, where he engaged in business for several years as a diamond broker.

In 1892 he presented the town of Meredith a soldiers' monument of marble and granite, to perpetuate the memory of the boys who enlisted in the fighting 12th New Hampshire regiment. This monument stands in front of the library building at Meredith, and cost several thousand dollars.

The body of Maj Bedee will be buried in the family lot at Meredith. Prayers will be offered by Rev C. W. Wilson at the Pemigewasset house tomorrow morning at 10:30. Funeral services will be held at the North church, Meredith, Thursday afternoon at 2, and will be conducted by Rev G. I. Baird, assisted by Rev Clinton W. Wilson of Plymouth.