

Bio of Mary Ann (*nee Edmund*) Edstrom

Born: March 1817
Newfoundland, Canada (then part of England)

Died: April 24, 1904
Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, USA



Mary Ann Edmund was born in March, 1817, in St. John's, Newfoundland. (She was born when Newfoundland was part of the United Kingdom. Now the island is considered part of Canada.)

She was the daughter of Alice St. John of St. John's, Newfoundland, and James Edmund, of English nationality.

She married Edmund "Paul" Edstrom (also spelled Edstrum) by October 1835.

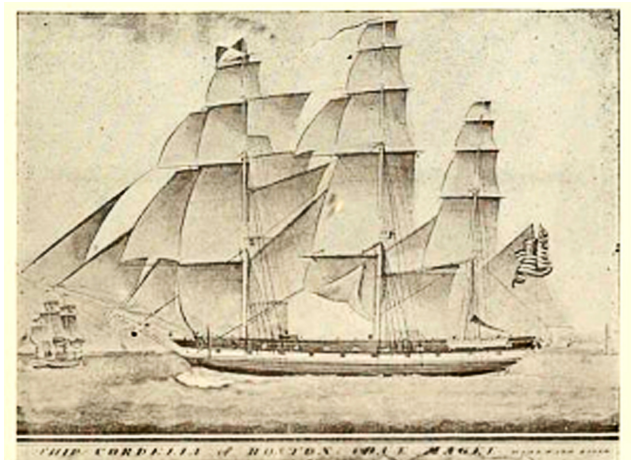
In October 1835, they already were married when they immigrated from the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia to Boston, Mass., USA, on the ship (brig) Cordelia with the declared intention of becoming US citizens. (*Brig before a ship name means it is a: "Two-masted sailing vessel square-rigged on both masts."*) Because Canada was considered part of England then, the ship's passengers list notation that they were from England going to the United States could have included Canada as being "England."

On the passenger list, he was listed as a cooper (*a builder of casks and barrels*) and she was listed as a dressmaker.

Edmund "Paul" Edstrom was of English nationality and was born at sea in abt 1809. Throughout his lifetime in the Boston region, he became a highly successful harness maker and designer. He even had patents on his designs and showed them at exhibitions. Some of their sons also became successful harnessmakers or "collarmakers."

Mary Ann and Paul had six children, all born in Massachusetts, including Emily Agnes Edstrom (b 1843 in Boston). In the censuses after their arrival, the family is listed as living in Boston. Then from 1848 to 1855, they lived in rural Boston in Cambridge, Mass.

By the 1860 census, the family had moved to Shullsburg, Lafayette County, Wisconsin, a lead mining boom town at the time. There, their daughter Emily met and married Joseph Allen Hardy (b 1840) at age 19 in 1862. Hardy was a miner working with his successful mine owner/operator father, Joseph Arnold Hardy (b 1812).



[53] SHIP "CORDELIA," OF BOSTON, HOMEWARD BOUND FROM LEGHORN ABOUT 1830.

This ship Brig "Cordelia of Boston" carried family immigrants to Boston in the 1830s.

Their reason for moving to Wisconsin is unknown, but it possibly was to sell the family's successful harness designs to pioneers moving westward. Perhaps the lower population of frontier towns like Shullsburg could not support enough sales, or their intention was to set up a son's harness business there and keep their Boston-area business.

By the 1870 census, Paul and Mary Ann and 3 of their children were reported as moved back to rural Boston and living in Somerville, Middlesex Co., Mass. Paul, however, could have remained in Wisconsin, which was not uncommon in mining frontier towns since wives and children often did not enjoy living there.

Edmund "Paul" Edstrom died by the early 1870s. Family accounts say that he died in Wisconsin.

Mary Ann is listed as living in Boston in the 1880 and 1890 censuses.

In 1897, Mary A. Edstrom was listed in the Medford City Directory as the widow of Edmond and she was boarding near Boston at 503 Main, Medford, Middlesex County, Mass.

She died at age 87 at 3 Morse St., Boston, Mass. (See photo of that building in her profile.) Her death certificate states, among other things, her country of birth and that she was buried at Forest Hills.

Burial: Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain, Suffolk County, Mass.

Bio by FindFamilyTrees.com



Photo of Mary Ann Edmund Edstrom's residence, where she died in 1904, at 3 Morse St., Boston, Mass. (Photo 2009.)
FindFamilyTrees.com