

Eadgifu of Wessex

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Eadgifu or **Edgifu**, also known as Edgiva or Ogive (Old English: *Ēadgifu*; 902 – after 955) was a daughter^[1] of Edward the Elder, King of Wessex and England, and his second wife Ælfflæd. She was born in Wessex.

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Marriage to the French King

Eadgifu was one of three West Saxon sisters married to Continental kings: the others were Eadgyth, who married Otto I, Holy Roman Emperor and Eadhild, who married Hugh the Great. Eadgifu became the second wife of King Charles III of France,^[1] whom she married in 919 after the death of his first wife, Frederonne. Eadgifu was mother to Louis IV of France.

Flight to England

In 922 Charles III was deposed and the next year taken prisoner by Count Herbert II of Vermandois, an ally of the then current king. To protect her son's safety Eadgifu took him to England in 923 to the court of her half-brother, King Æthelstan of England.^[2] Because of this, Louis IV of France became known as Louis d'Outremer of France. He stayed there until 936, when he was called back to France to be crowned King. Eadgifu accompanied him.

She retired to a convent in Laon.^[3] In 951, Heribert the Old, Count of Omois, abducted and married her, to the great anger of her son.^[4]

Notes

- Lappenberg, pp. 88-89
- Williams. p. 112

- Schwennicke, 49
- Dunbabin, p. 384

References

Eadgifu of Wessex



Eadgifu of Wessex, with her son Louis IV

Born	902
Died	After 955
Spouse	Charles III of France Herbert III of Omois
Issue	Louis IV
House	Wessex
Father	Edward the Elder
Mother	Ælfflæd

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- Schwennicke, Detlev (1984) *Europäische Stammtafeln: Stammtafeln zur Geschichte der Europäischen Staaten*, Neue Folge, Band III Teilband 1 (Marburg, Germany: J. A. Stargardt), Tafel 49
- Williams, Ann; Smyth, Alfred P.; Kirby, D. P. (1991). *A Biographical Dictionary of Dark Age Britain: England, Scotland, and Wales*. Routledge. ISBN 1-85264-047-2.

External links

- Eadgifu 3 (<http://www.pase.ac.uk/jsp/ASC/person.jsp?personKey=13339>) at Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England

Eadgifu of Wessex House of Wessex Born: 902 Died: after 955		
Preceded by Frederonne	Queen of Western Francia 919–922	Succeeded by Béatrice of Vermandois

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