

GODWIN, JUDITH (died 1746), one of Howel Harris's correspondents

Name: Judith Godwin
Date of death: 1746
Spouse: Edward Godwin
Spouse: Samuel Jones
Child: John Godwin
Child: Edward Godwin
Gender: Female
Occupation: one of Howel Harris's correspondents
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

Her maiden name was Weaver, and it is often (but incorrectly) said that she was the daughter of John Weaver (died 1712), Puritan minister at New Radnor and afterwards at Hereford; it is however very probable that she belonged to the same family and was born in Radnorshire. She married (1) **Samuel Jones** (1680? - 1719), of Tewkesbury, and (2) in 1721, Edward Godwin (1680? - 1764), a prominent Independent minister in London. Of the second marriage there were two sons: Edward (1722 - 1748/9), a Whitefieldian exhorter, and John (1723 - 1772), an Independent minister in East Anglia who became father of the writer William Godwin and grandfather of the novelist Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. Judith Godwin moved in the quasi-Methodist Nonconformist circle of her day in Wales, and was friendly with **Vavasor Griffiths** and **Lewis Rees**; she was also an early and close friend of **Howel Harris** and of his family - we have nearly forty letters which passed between her and **Harris**. She was pietistic, and was strongly prejudiced against John and Charles Wesley. She died at Watford, Hertfordshire, 25 January 1746.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

Cylchgrawn Cymdeithas Hanes y Methodistiaid Calfinaidd, 1943, iii and iv, and references given there

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