

Chapter 15

*Mardocheus caufeth Efther to goe to the king and in-
treate for the people. 10. She is terrified by his coun-
tenance, but God turneth his hart, and he calleth her
curteoufly to him.*

This alfo I found added in the common edition.
And he commanded her (*no doubt but Mardocheus*
commanded Efther) that ſhe ſhould goe vnto the king,
and make petition for her people and for her countrie.
² Remember (quoth he) the daies of thy humilitie, how
thou waſt brought vp in my hand, becauſe Aman the
ſecond after the king hath ſpoken againſt vs vnto death:
³ and doe thou inuocate our Lord, and ſpeake to the king
for vs, & deliuer vs from death.

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H ch. 13. v. 8.

Moreouer this alfo which foloweth I found in the
common Greke.

⁴ And in the third day ſhe layd away ^athe gar-
mentes which ſhe ware, & was clothed in her glorie.
⁵ And when ſhe gliftered in royal apparel, and had in-
uocated God the ruler and fauiour of al, ſhe tooke two
wayting maydes, ⁶ and vpon the one in deede ſhe leaned,
as it were for dilicatnes and verie much tendernes not
able to beare vp her bodie: ⁷ but the other of her may-
des folowed her ladie, bearing vp her garmentes trayling
on the ground. ⁸ But her ſelf in al her countenance of
colour like the roſe, alfo with gracious and ſhining eies
^bhid her mind ful of forow, and exceding feare. ⁹ She
therfore entring through al the doores in order, ſtood
before the king, where he fate vpon the throne of his
kingdom, clothed with royal garmentes, and glittering in
gold, and pretious ſtones, and he was terrible to behold.
¹⁰ And when he had lifted vp his face, and with burn-
ing eies had ſhewed the furie of his breaft, the Queene
fel downe, and her colour being changed into palenes,

^a *Veftimenta oratus* not *ornatus* her praying weede.

^b A notable example for Noble wemen, how to kepe their ftate, &
remaiue neuertheles humble in hart.

she refted her wearie head vpon her handmayde. ¹¹ And God turned the kings fpirit in to mildnes, and in haft and fearing he lept out of the throne, and holding her vp in his armes, til she came to her felf, fpake her fayre with thefe wordes: ¹² What ayleth thee Efther? I am thy brother, feare not. ¹³ Thou shalt not die: for this law is not made for thee, but for the common forte. ¹⁴ Come neere therefore, and touch the fcepter. ¹⁵ And when she held her peace, he tooke the golden rod, & put it vpon her necke, and kiffed her, and fayd: Why fpakeft thou not to me? ¹⁶ Who answered: I faw thee, my Lord, ^a)as an angel of God, and my hart was trubled for the feare of thy glorie. ¹⁷ For thou, my lord, art exceding maruelous, and thy face is ful of graces. ¹⁸ And when she fpake, she fel downe agayne, and was almoft in a fwoone. ¹⁹ But the king was trubled, and al his feruantes did comfort her.

K ch. 5. v. 2.

^a By this comparifon of angels she ment that the king excelled al or moft part of men.