

Eulalia geueth the onfet, deny- ing to sacrifice to deuils.

Eulalia kept secret by her pa- rents.

Eulalia disprou- ueth the Hea- then Iudge.

The godly con- fession of *Eulalia*.

Eulalia allured with fayre per- swasions.

to geue a charge vpon this so great, and disordered a bat- tle: and loe, silly woocman, pouring out the bowels of her innocent hart before God, moze prouoketh cherby the force and rage of her enemies agaynst her. But the godly care of her parentes, fearing least the willing minde of the Daniell, so ready to dye for Christes cause, might make her guilty of her owne death, hid her and kept her close at their house in the countrey, being a great way out of the Citie. She yet mistaking that quiet life, as also detesting, to make such delay, softly sleaeth out of the doores (no man know- ing thereof) in the night and in great hast leauing the com- mon waye, openeth the hedge gappes, and with weeye feete (god knoweth) passed through y^e thorny & byetery pla- ces, accompanied yet wth spirituall garde: & although darke & dreadfull was the silent night, yet had shee with her the Lord & guider of light. And as the children of Israel com- ming out of Egypt, had by the myghty power of God, a cloudy pillar for their guide in y^e day, & a flame of fire in the night, so had this godly virgine, traueling in this darke night, when she sleing & forsaking the place where al filthy idolatry abounded, & hastened her heavenly iourney, was not oppos'd with the dreadfull darkness of the night. But yet she before the day appeared in this her speedy iourney, with her selfe considered & muled on a thousand matters, & more. In the moyning betime with a bound courage she goeth vnto the tribunal or iudgement seat, & in the midst of them all with a loud voice, crying out sayde: I praye you to hat a shame is it for you thus rashly, and without aduisement to destroy and kill mens soules, and to throwe their bodies aliue against the rocks, and cause them to de- ny the omnipotent god: would you know (O you vnfor- tunate) who I am? behold, I am one of the Christians: an enimie to your deuillish sacrifices, I spurne your idols vnder my feete: I confesse God omnipotent with my hart and mouth. His, Apollo, and Cernus, what are they? Max- iminus himselfe, what is he? The one a thing of naught, for that they be y^e workes of mens hands, y^e other but a cast awaye because he worshippeth the same worke. Whereofe frinulous are they both, and both not worthy to be set by. Maximinus is they a lorde of substance, and yet he himselfe fallerh downe before a stone, and boweth the honoz of hys dignitie vnto those that are much inferior to his ballas. Why then doth he oppresse to tirannically, moze worthy stomacks and courages then himselfe? He must needs be a good guid, and an upright iudge, which sedeth vpon inno- cent blood: and breathyng in the bodies of godly men doth rent and reare their bowels, and that moze is, hath his de- light in destroying and subverting the faith.

So to the fore thou hangman, burne, cut and mangle thou these earthly members. It is an easie matter to breake a brittle substance, but the inward mind shalt not thou hurt for any thing thou canst do. The pretor the or iudge wyth these words of hers, set in a great rage, saith, hangman take her and pull her out by the heare of her head & torment her to the uttermost. Let her feele the power of our countrey gods, and let her know what the Imperiall gouernement of a Prince is. But yet, O thou sturdy girdle, I haue woulde I haue thee (if it were possible) before thou dye, to reuoke this thy wickednes. Behold what pleasures thou maiest enioy by the honorable house thou comest of. Thy fallent house and progenie followeth thee to death with lamenta- ble traeces, & the heauy nobility of thy kindred maketh dol- full lamentation for thee. What meanest thou, wilt thou kill thy selfe so younge a flower, & so neare these honorable ma- rias and great dowries that thou maiest enioy? Doth not the glittering and golden pompe of the byed bed moue thee? Doth not the recurrende pietie of thyne Amicitious picke thee? whom is it not, but that this thy rashnes and weakenes sorroweth? behold here the furniture ready pre- pared for thy terrible death. Either shalt thou be headed with this sword, or else with these wild beastes shalt thou be pulled in peeces, or els y^e being cast into the fiery flames shalt be (although lamentably bewailed of thy friends and kindfolks) consumed to ashes. What great matter is it for thee I pray thee, to escape at this? If thou wilt but take & put with thy fingers a little salt & incense into the centers, thou shalt be deliuered from all these punishmentes. So this *Eulalia* made no answer, but being in a great furye shee spitteth in the tirantes face, she throweth downe the I- doles, and spurneth abroad with her feete the heape of in- cense prepared to the centers: then without further delay, the hangmen with both their strengthes tooke her, & puld one toynt from an other, and with the talantes of wilde beastes, scotched her sides to the hard bodes: she all this while singyng and prayyng God in this wise. Beholde, O Lord I will not forget thee: what a pleasure is it for them O Christ that remember thy triumphat victoyes, to ac-

rayne vnto these high dignities, and still calleth vpon that holy name, al stained and embroved with her owne bloude. This lang the wyth a bold stomacke, neither lamentyngly nor yet weepingly, but being glad and mery, abandonyng from her mind all heauines and griefe, when as out of a warme fountain her mangled members wyth fresh blood bathed her white and fayre skynne. Then proceede they to the last and final torment, which was not only the going and woundyng of her mangled body with the yron great, & hurdle, and terrible harrowyng of her flesh, but burned, on every side with flaming torches her tormented byestes, and sides: her heare hanging about her shoulders in two parts deuided (wherewith her shamaist chastite and virginite was couered) reached downe to the ground: but with the cracking flame fleeth about her face, kindled by her heare, and reacheth the crowne of her head: the she desiring swift death, opened her mouth and swallowed the flame, and so rested shee in peace.

The sayde Prudentius and Ado, also Equilinus adde mozeouer, wytyng of a white done issuing out of her mouth at her departing, and of the fire quenched about her body, also of her body, couered miraculously wyth snow, with other things moze, wherof let euery reader use hys owne iudgement.

As ye haue heard now the Christian life and constant death of *Eulalia*, much worthy of praisse & commendation: So no lesse commendation is worthy to be giuen to blef- sed Agnes, that constant Daniell and martir of God, who as he was in Rome of honorable parentes begotten, so lyeth she there as honorably intombd & buried. whiche Agnes for her vnspotted & vndefiled virginite, deserveth no greater praisse and commendation, then for her willing death and martirdome. Some wyters make of her a long discourse, moze in my iudgement then necessary, recyting diuers & sundry strange miracles by her done in the pro- cesse of her history, which partly for tediousnes, partly for the doubtfulness of the author, (whome some father vpon Ambrose) and partly for the strangenes and incredulitie thereof I omit, being satisfied with that which Prudentius, blyssly wyteth of her, as foloweth: Shee was (sayth hee) yong & not marriageable, when first she being dedicated to Christ, boldly refused the wicked Edictes of the Empe- ror: least that throught idolatry she might haue denied and forsaken the holy faith: but yet first proued by diuers and sundry policies to induce her to the same (as now with y^e hartering and inticing words of the Iudge, now with the thycatryngs of the stormyng executioner) stode not wyth- standing, steadfast in al contagious strengthes: and willingly offered her body to hard & painful torments, not refusing as she sayd, to suffer whatsoeuer it should be, yea though it were death it selfe. Then said the cruell tyrant: if to suffer paine & torment, be to ealie a matter and lightly regar- ded of thee & that thou comprehendest thy life nothing worth: yet y^e shame of thy dedicated or vowed virginite is a thing moze regarded I know, and esteemed of thee. Wherefore this is determined, that vntles thou wilt make obediante to the altar of Minerua, and aske forgiveness of her for thy arrogancy, thou shalt be sent or abandoned to the comon stews or brothel house. Agnes y^e virgine, with moze spirit and becheryntie inuiceth against both Minerua & her ver- ginitie: the youth in sculs flocke and runne together, and craue that they may haue Agnes their ludibrious pray: the faith Agnes, Christ is not so forgetfull of those that be hys, that he wil suffer violently to be taken fro them their gol- den and pure chastite, neither wil he leaue them so desti- tute of helpe: he is alwaies at hande and ready to fight for such as are shamaist and chaff virgines, neither suffereth he his giffes of holy integritie or chastite to be polluted. Thou shalt sayth shee, willingly barbe thy sword in my blood if thou wilt, but thou shalt not defile my body with filthy lust for any thing thou canst doe. She had no sower spoken these wordes, but he commaunded that she should be set naked at the corner of some streete, (whiche place at that time, such as were strumpets commonly used, the grea- ter part of the multitude both sorrowyng and shawing to see lo shamaies a sight, went their wayes, some turninge their heades, some hiding their faces. But one amongst y^e rest, with vncircumcised eyes, beholding the Daniell, and that in such opprobrious wise: behold a flame of fire lyke vnto a flash of lightning, fallerh vpon him, striketh his eyes out of his head, wherupon he for dead falling to the ground, sprauerh in the chancel butt, whose companions taking him vp, & carryng him away, bewayled him as a dead man. But the virgyn for this her miraculously deliery from the danger and shame of that place, singeth prayles vnto God and Christ.

There be (sayth Prudentius) that report how that shee being

Eulalia singeth, and prayeth God in her tormentes.

Eulalia put in the fire. The end and martyr- dome of *Eulalia*.

Ex Prudenti

Agnes mar- tyr.

Strange and vne- cessary my- racles omit- ted.

Ex pruden- tib. de Co- ronis.

Agnes con- stant in the confession of her faith.

Agnes threatned to the brothelhouse.

Agnes bolde vpon the helpe of Christ.

The incon- tinent eyes of a young man behol- ding *Agnes* strunken out.