

THE CANADIAN
METHODIST MAGAZINE.

DECEMBER, 1875.

THE PROTESTANTISM OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

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PART SECOND.

To the Protestant testimonies previously cited I will add those of Roman Catholics. The fact that ten years after Elizabeth's accession to the throne, the emissaries of the Pope and of King Philip were hatching conspiracies against her, both in England and on the continent, and that the Pope issued a bull of excommunication against her, as an incorrigible heretic and an implacable enemy of the Papal Church, releasing her subjects from their allegiance to her throne,—these facts amply refute the Puritan imputations upon the Protestantism of Elizabeth. But the private dispatches addressed by the representatives of Papal Governments in England to their respective sovereigns reveal their conviction of the Queen's thorough Protestantism from the very commencement of her reign. King Philip II., of Spain, on the anticipated death of his wife, Queen Mary, sent the Duke De Feria to express his kindly feelings to his dying wife, and to be at the side of Elizabeth on her accession to the crown. De Feria gives an account of his first interview with Elizabeth, before the death of her sister. He writes, "I fear much that in religion she