

their exasperation with the Queen, say openly that she is not their lawful sovereign. . . . But the spirit of this woman is such that I can believe anything of her. She is possessed by the devil, who is dragging her to his own place."

*From the same to the same.*

"LONDON, July—

"I am compelled to tell your Majesty that the leading Catholics are amazed to see the Queen permitted to go forward in this course of recklessness, careless of the interests of either England or of adjoining realms. In the six months she has been on the throne, she has brought heresy into life again and fed it up into strength and spirit, when it was all but dead. I am well aware that your Majesty does not forget these things, but it is necessary that you should know what is said here. First they looked to your Majesty to help them; then they looked to France, and if France does nothing they say it will be your Majesty's fault.

"As for this woman, you must expect nothing from her. She is possessed with a false opinion of her own resources, from which she will never awake till she is ruined. Heresy has been engrained into her from her very cradle, and she so hates the truth that she thinks of nothing but how to destroy it. If your Majesty were to save her life a second time, she would be no more faithful to you than she is now. If she can spread the poison and set your Majesty's Low Countries on fire, she will do it without remorse."

*From Philip II. to his Bishop Ambassador, De Guadra.*

"BRUSSELS, July 9, 1559.

"I have seen what you have written. It concerns me deeply to hear of the increasing injuries done to religion, and the risk to which the Queen is exposing both herself and her realm.

"Seeing that neither the good offices, which she dare not deny that she has received from me, nor any demonstrations of brotherly affection, nor the warnings of Count De Feria, have availed anything, I have resolved to address her in another tone. . . . You will tell her that by what she is doing she is disturbing my affairs as well as her own, and that if she does not alter her proceedings, I shall have to consider what it will be necessary for me to do. I cannot suffer the peace of these estates to be endangered by her caprices, as I see plainly that it now will be. Say this to her from me."

*From the Bishop Ambassador to Philip II.*

"LONDON, July —

"Thomas Randolph has just come in haste from France to say that the Dauphin, [husband of Mary Queen of Scots,] after having publicly assumed the royal arms of England, is about to be proclaimed King of Scotland, England and Ireland. The Queen, when she heard it, said that she would take a husband who would make the King of France's head ache, and that he little knew what a buffet she could give him. . . . I have my spies about the Queen's person; I know every word she says. . . . The discontent grows and spreads. The northern counties refuse the new prayer book. Rebellion is not far off."