

01 **Elizabethan.** — SECRET MEMOIRS of ROBERT DUDLEY, Earl of Leicester, Prime Minister and Favourite of Queen Elizabeth . . . His Ambition, Intrigues, Excessive Power; His Engrossing the Queen, &c. Written during his Life, and now Published from an Old Manuscript. With a Preface by DR. DRAKE. Second Edition, corrected, 8vo., contemporary panelled calf gilt, 1706

78 **ELIZABETHAN.** — Leycester's Commonwealth conceived, spoken and published with most earnest protestation of all Dutifull goodwill and affection towards this Realm, sm. 4to, *orig. calf, fine copy,*  
30/- 1641

This work dealing with Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester and Queen Elizabeth, is supposed to be the work of Parsons the Jesuit. It was obviously impossible to publish it during the life of Elizabeth or even James I., and even when it was issued it was without name of printer or publisher.

02 **Elizabethan.** — The LIFE of ROBERT EARL of Leicester, The Favourite of Queen Elizabeth: Drawn from original Writers and Records [by SAMUEL JEBB]. *Portrait.* 8vo., contemporary calf, 1727 22.4 15/-

**Elizabeth**, Queen of England (*b.* 1533, *d.* 1602), daughter of Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn, was brought up as a Protestant. Her education was entrusted to the most learned men of the age, and she became an accomplished scholar. During the reign of her sister Mary she was imprisoned for a time in the Tower. On her accession (1558), Mary's enactments in favour of Romanism were abrogated; by the Act of Supremacy the sovereign again became head of the Church, and a form of worship was established which, it was hoped, would conciliate moderate men of all parties. At first the spirit of discontent dared not show itself amidst the general satisfaction. But after the escape of Mary Stuart into England (1568), her presence in the country was a constant source of disquiet. She was the heir to the throne, and as Elizabeth persistently refused to marry, it seemed probable that she would be her successor. The disaffected Papists were further encouraged by the sentence of excommunication pronounced against Elizabeth by the Pope, and by the triumph of their cause abroad; Jesuits from Douay traversed the country in disguise,

several plots were formed, and it became necessary to put the penal enactments against Recusants more stringently in force. The Protestantism of the country was acutely aroused, and a strong party in the council urged the queen to put herself forward as the champion of the Reformed faith on the Continent. But Elizabeth chose rather to encourage a feeling of independence and energy at home than to involve England in foreign complications; the prudence and patriotism of her policy were fully proved by the after history of her reign. The growing feeling of nationality proved stronger than the lingering attachment to the old faith, especially after the hopes of the Roman Catholics had been dashed by the execution of Mary (1587), and when Philip of Spain sent his long-projected expedition against England (1588) Papists as well as Protestants came zealously forward in defence of the realm. During the latter part of the reign, the disturbances created by the Puritans foreshadowed the troubles of the opening century.

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Queen Elizabeth died at Richmond between two and three o'clock of the morning of March 24; at ten o'clock, thanks to the promptitude of Sir Robert Cecil, her successor was proclaimed in Whitehall. But Cecil was not the only man in a hurry in this crisis in the succession. James I.'s progress from Scotland was so rapid that he had to be held up for a few days at Burghley, the family seat of the Cecils, in order to allow the funeral arrangements to be completed (on April 28) before his official entry into the capital, while one of the messengers was obliged to stay at Grantham to be treated by a bonesetter. "All mourn in black cloth, both lords, ladies, and all others," though some among them now felt free to announce that they had been married "these two years and more." The dead hand was at last removed; a flurried search for precedents—even in such matters as the form of proclamations to be used on a king's accession, the jointure of a queen—carried men back, almost before they knew it, to Catherine of Aragon and the pre-Reformation era.