ELIZABETH, 1558-1603 (45 years).

Title: Daughter of Henry VIII.

SUMMARY OF REIGN.

SECTION I.—DIFFICULTIES OF ELIZABETH'S POSITION, AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THE GREAT RELIGIOUS QUESTION.

Accession and Character of Elizabeth. Settlement of the Religious Question. Religious changes introduced; Act of Supremacy; Act of Uniformity; Thirty-nine Articles of Religion ratified. Difficulties with the Bishops and Clergy. Elizabeth and the Puritans. Difficulties with France and Spain.

SECTION II.—THE RIVALRY BETWEEN ELIZABETH AND MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS.

The Reformation in Scotland. Treaty of Edinburgh. Mary, Queen of Scots returns to Scotland. Character of Mary. She marries Darnley. Murder of Darnley. Mary's flight into England. Roman Catholic Plots in favour of Mary. Plots of the Duke of Norfolk, and of Ridolfi. Relations with Spain and France. The Massacre of St. Bartholomew. The Jesuit intrigues and Throgmorton's Plot. The Band of Association. Leicester's expedition to Holland. Battle of Zutphen. Babington's Plot, and execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.