

EDITORIAL NOTES.

his tin kettle, and began to make it boil. After some time he tasted his new fashion food; it did not taste very good. "May be it is not cooked enough," said he, and he continued to make fire and to boil his soup, tasting it every now and then, until the moment when all the water having been evaporated, the salt remained dry at the bottom of his kettle.

ST. CLEMENT, THIRD POPE: 67 to 76.

"St. Clement was born in Rome, and was son of Faustinian. He sat on the Pontifical chair nine years, two months and ten days, under the Emperors Galba and Vespasian, between the consulate of Trachalus and Italicus, and that of Vespasian and Titus. He divided the city of Rome into seven districts, each of which he ascribed to as many notaries or stenographers, whom he appointed to register, each one in his district, the Acts of the Martyrs. Besides a great number of writings which he composed in defence of the Christian Faith, he wrote the two epistles bearing his name. Blessed Peter to whom our Lord had entrusted the Apostolical chair, had revealed to him that he would be elected Sovereign Pontiff, and that he should accept the government of the church notwithstanding his reluctance. Linus and Cletus are marked in the catalogue of Pontiffs before Clement, because their episcopal ordination by St. Peter took place before his. Clement held two ordinations in the month of December, in which he ordained two Deacons, twelve Priests and fifteen Bishops for different churches. He suffered martyrdom the third year of the reign of Trajan, and was buried in the land of Greece, the 23rd of November. The Pontificate

after him had been vacant twenty-two days."

Is not this clear enough? Here we see that the Pontificate of St. Clement was under the reign of Galba and Vespasian, not mentioning Otho and Vitellius who only passed on the Imperial throne, between the consulate of Trachalus and Italicus and that of Vespasian and Titus, that is between the years of O. L. 67 and 76. He was then sent into exile, and died in the land of Greece in the year 100. He then abdicated the sovereign Pontificate, for the accepting of which he had had a personal reluctance, and would never have allowed such a charge to be imposed upon him, had he not been as if it were compelled by the order of Blessed Peter.

We find several other proofs of the Pontificate of St. Clement having taken place during the above marked period, and can not understand how some histories of the church place it at a different period, viz., between the years of O. L. 90 and 100. Is it not regrettable that such divergencies have been allowed to be printed so repeatedly and still continue to appear in recent histories of the Church? Surely enough it can not have been more difficult to obtain correct records of the succession of the first Popes than of the reigns of Nero, Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, Nerva and Trajan, who succeeded each other on the Imperial throne at the same period. And when we have records of the succession of the first Popes, indicating their names, origin, parentage, consular dates of their accession and exits, marking down even the number of years, months, and days, it is natural to admit that those are genuine records, because all those particulars would not, nor could not have been invented.