

These are only two of the many virtues possessed by this great saint, by means of which he achieved his splendid triumphs. In the same measure in which we shall walk in his footsteps, shall we also share in his triumphs.

In closing, it should be remarked that the feast day of St. Ambrose is celebrated on the anniversary of his ordination and consecration, and not on the anniversary of his death, as is the general rule.

ST. PETER'S CHAIR AT ROME.

By REV. STEPHEN J. McDONALD, O.C.C.



ATHRONES are not established without victories; nor does one dynasty submit to its rival until unable to maintain its position any longer. Hence, when we celebrate the rise of a new line of kings we commemorate, at least indirectly, the downfall of its rival and, at the same time, all the victories which led to that downfall.

On the 18th of this month, the Church celebrates the foundation of St. Peter's Chair at Rome—the establishing of the capital of Christ's kingdom in the very heart of paganism. Need we say that such a transformation of Rome could not take place without hard-fought battles?

When Christ, before leaving His Disciples, said to them "Go, teach all nations," we doubt not in the least that He, at the same time, instructed them as to the manner in which they were to fulfil this command. Without some general system of operation, the labor of evangelizing the world would have been far more difficult than it actually was. In such a gigantic undertaking, there must necessarily be

a centralization of forces—one common point of union for all the workers, if they would not have it wear the appearance of a chance aggregation of effects from wholly independent and unconnected causes. The Apostles were to realize one of God's designs, and the characteristic of all things divine is unity. We have no doubt, therefore, that Christ taught His Disciples to act systematically and harmoniously. From the accounts we have of the labors of the Apostles, we can plainly see that they were conducted according to some method. Arriving in a country, they direct their steps towards the metropolis and there remain till they have established a church on firm footing. Afterwards they use this central church as the starting-point of their excursions into the whole country. Thus we see St. Paul visiting Athens, Corinth, Ephesus and other large cities, planting the seed of the Gospel in places where it would have ample opportunity to flourish and spread. As the first of the Apostles, it behooved St. Peter to establish himself in the centre of the world—the Mother of Nations—Rome. This he did as soon as affairs in the East suffered him to depart.

Rome was the all-absorbing centre whither, as Tacitus tells us, "flocked