1/3/63 Pre Reformation C. H. #42-3

But you will find R. C. books saying that in this council, of Cordova presided as representative of Pope Sylvester. There is no proof of that whatever but you can't even make such a statement regardisng a second because there was no bishop from the western church present at all. No representative of the pope and no one who could in any way be called a representative. It was definitely called by the empreeor. Now the reason why the emperor called it is stated, (I wouldn't state it the way he did there) but it was to secure ecclestical uniformity in the east, but it isn't a bad way of waying it. Theodotius was anxious to put an end to the movement in the eastern church which he considered harmful. So in 384 when the new emperor, having been in 2 or 3 years, he had been busy trying to put an end to the barbariant invasion which was sweeping over part of the empire there; he had gotten things into fairly good sorder and came into Constantinople in and immediately gave orders. He said = in this city the capital city of the empire only the religion to be preached, which will follow the nicene creed. He said the religion which is held by the bishops, and the pope of Alexandria will be followed. He mentioned these two as the men who had outstanding position in the church at that time. B ishop of Rome and the Pope of Alexandria. The religion they hold is the one to be preached in all churches in Constantinople. Now before they you had emperor Valens and before him comes Constantius who would not permit anything but Arian preaching in Constantinople so that city had been pretty thoroughly Arianized. But Theodotus, when he gave this order, noticed that Gregory of N...... 6 had already come into the city and in a house he had been preaching, now he had a chance to make his needs more' public by preaching on the incarnation and full deity of Christ. His meetings which started with a few people gradually & increased until he had a tremendous ministry in Consequently there were other movements in the church which & needed to be the city. thought through and Theodotius wanted to have the bishops get together and consider these matters and see what was the real belief of the church. So he called this council but it was only bishops from the eastern churches and probably the reason was that he had been invited to become co=emperor with Gratian who was emperor in the west, and Theodotius simply did this in the east.5