



ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL ANGELS', YUNG-CHING.

At Tai-wang-chuang, a village some five miles from Yung Ching, a native convert named Wang-chih-k'ai, after his confirmation in 1893, began to make efforts to spread the Gospel among his family and neighbors.

At first he provided a preaching-room, and when the converts had largely increased, he gave an excellent site for a church. Here, on Easter Tuesday, 1899, after the Holy Communion had been celebrated in the old room, Mr. Norman, with the help of a few native Christians, marked out the foundation of the new church, and "then knelt down and asked for God's blessing and guidance and protection during the building operations." Mr. Norman spent much time and pains on the building, doing a good deal of the work with his own hands. The result was, that with the help of the native Christians the church was built in ten weeks. The carpentering was done by a young Chinaman brought up in the Peking Mission School, who had been regarded as a failure until Mr. Norman took him in hand and gave him a special training at his own expense.

At the Dedication Service on July 6 (1899), many of the Yung Ching Christians were present, and some hundred heathen women came from neighboring villages to witness the service and gratify their curiosity at this "foreign building." The church was dedicated to St. Peter, and in preaching on St. Peter's Confes-

sion of our Lord's Divinity. Bishop Scott exhorted his hearers to be bold in confessing Christ before men, and to love and reverence the Name of God.

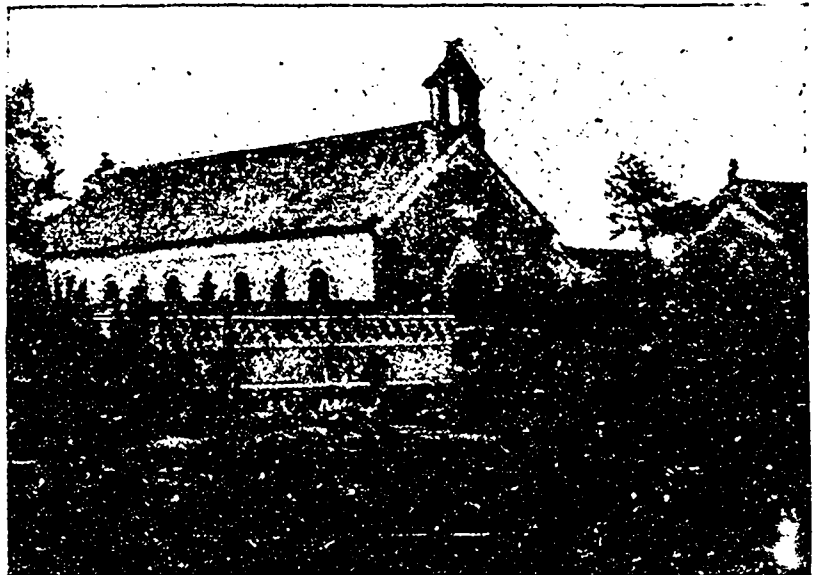
Up to last year the work of the Mission in Yung Ching district was full of encouragement, not the least encouraging feature being the number of women who had become Christians.

On this subject Mr. Norman wrote:—"At an early celebration of Holy Communion where I have seen these women, inwardly so earnest, outwardly so changed in their appearance, I have been moved to thankfulness. No one who could compare them with non-Christians would say with a clear conscience that Missions are

a failure."

Since the appearance of the marauding bands, or sects known as the "Boxers" or "The Big Swords," in North China, Mission work there has been at a standstill. At first only native Christians were molested, but the movement was unmistakably anti-foreign, and, as we have seen, Mr. Brooks was attacked and killed in December last.

In February, Bishop Scott wrote:—"Since the death of Mr. Brooks, two at least of our outstations have been attacked, the small Mission chapels destroyed, and the people scattered. . . . The whole course of events leads us one and all to the irresistible conclusion—and a very grave one it is—that the highest authority in the country is deliberately encouraging this vile persecution of Christians



ST. PETER'S, TAI-WANG-CHUANG.