



*The church at Shungshu Chuan with the Rev. Selosso on the steps.*

see, consisting of over 20 parishes with their churches, schools etc., he was not allowed more than 21,000 francs a year. Such a small budget demanded a great deal of self-sacrifice on the part of the Roman Catholic fathers, nor can anyone who has seen the conditions of life among them at close quarters, full of privations, speak of them with anything but profound respect.

Lianchow is the headquarters of a Taotai with two fu districts: Kanchow, which includes Chang yeh (Kanchow), Kaotai, Tung lo and Shantan hsien, and Fu yeh ting and Lianchow, which includes U wai (Lianchow), Yung chang, Cheng fan and Kulang hsien. There are about 5,370 tja and 870 shops (13 large ones) in the town and about 145 tja, 80 shops and 11 sarais in the suburbs. In point of population it is considered the second largest town in Kan Su. There was lively traffic in the streets and the displays in many of the shops looked pretty, at any rate now just before the Chinese New Year. A kind of adhesive plaster and an excellent kind of glue were among the special products of Lianchow. The former was famous throughout China and was eagerly bought by all Chinese who passed through. In addition to the ordinary handicrafts, coarse pottery and paper were manufactured. The paper was of two sorts, grey paper known as »matcheu» and made of wheaten straw and »malien» (iris), and white paper known as »mao tcou tcheu» and made of the leaves of the »malien» plant, reminiscent of iris. Other articles of export consist of »courage» seed, »chanvre», indigo and opium, the latter being sold in comparatively large quantities to Peiping and Tajuan. Trade in wool from the surrounding mountains goes principally through Yung Chang and only in small quantities through Lianchow. There are no grain exports worth mentioning, the supply being consumed locally. Russian goods, such as cloth, a little sugar, copper and tin basins and even sewing machines, are sold in large quan-