

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

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St. Thomas News.

The following article contributed by one much interested in the work of charity will be read by readers with much interest:

On Friday afternoon, Dec. 26, the St. Thomas Chapter of the American Red Cross acted the part of Santa Claus to more than two hundred poor children of the City. At the last meeting of the Executive Committee the plan was approved, and during the past few days active preparation were made to have a distribution of food, goodies and toys to those who otherwise would have received none.

The Red Cross rooms were found to be far too small, so the old Moravian School was used. Long before the appointed hour of three o'clock, the children had begun to gather. Each one had a red card which permitted him to enter, after which he was shown to a seat. The decorations were those befitting such an occasion. The American flag hung in a conspicuous place, while on the platform were two large Christmas trees decorated with festoons, bells and stockings filled with toys and candy. Under the trees were tables loaded with gifts—a bag or a stocking for each child present.

The exercises were opened with the singing of a Christmas hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and a prayer by Bishop Greider. About three o'clock, the ladies of the Executive Committee began to serve refreshments:—buns, big ones,—ham sandwiches, pie and pink lemonade. That might have been enough. But no. Thru the gener-

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