

Fred There are many things from which I might have derived good by which I have not profited, I dare say; Christmas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas-time, when it has come round, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely to those around and below them. And therefore, uncle, though it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe that it has done me good, and will do me good; and I say, God bless it!