

Boston, Feb. 24th 1886

My dear Sir,

It is true that I have received "several hundreds of letters" about my books. If you should say several thousands you would come nearer the truth - I have received many thousands. But that does not make you kind letter any the less welcome. I am glad to see that there is a Doctor who can write a spiritual Christmas Carol. I am pleased with your story of the coincidences. I have a whole budget of these same coincidences and am fond of relating them and listening to those of other people.

You will see of course that
if I answer the letters which
I receive - and I try to do it
as far as I can - I cannot write
very long replies. You will not
wonder to see so wide an expanse
of unreturned paper, nor that
I content myself with this brief
expression of the gratification
which your letter affords me.

I Believe me, my dear Sir,

Very truly Yours,

D. W. Holmes.