A poem by **David Armstrong**, posted on Yahoo Groups on December 24, 2008
(http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/68HC127message/16255)

Merry Christmas! A present from Santa to all S12XD users

Twas the Night Before Christmas,
when all through the House,
Not a computer was up, not even a mouse. (click)

The MCUs were hung with no cycles to spare,
In hopes that a reset soon would be there;

The programmers were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of compilers danced in their heads;

And the 812X in its' socket, and I with a cap,
Had just settled down for a long debug rap,
When out on the 'net there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the chair to see what was the matter.

Away to the hardware I cleared out the Flash,
Tore open my email and created a crash.

After a reboot of the now-fallen box,
The system just served to warm up my socks.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But an S12X IDE, with instructions so clear,
And a little old simulator, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment I must give it a kick.

More rapid than Ether the registers they came,
And the app whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;
"Now, PPAGE! now, EPAGE! now, RPAGE and D!
On, X! on Y! on, SP and CC!
To the top of the Stack! Right after the Call!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

Now what, you might ask, would make hardware fly,
What would be easy, and fast, and as simple as PI?

Would it be BASIC, or C, or even Pascal?
What about LISP, or APL, or maybe ALGOL!

And then, in a twinkling, I saw to the North,
The prancing and pawing of nothing but FORTH!

As I drew in my hand, and was turning around,
The IDE debugged and came with a bound.

It was dressed all in Windows, from its headers and classes,
As it ran Dirk's S12X Assembler passes;

So a bundle of code I wrote as a hack,
To see what the heck it would generate back.

And was surprized as it twinkled! It made my heart merry!
It's easy to test and write code with this cherry!

Now you might ask "How do I get this now,
In the darkness of night, and the deepening snow?"

And my answer is simple and painless and cheap.
No need to worry, or curse, or say *bleep*.

You don't have to use plastic, pay cash, or call Mom.
Just go to mamoru.tbreesama.googlepages.com

But read the instructions, and download the code,
and play with this toy before you grow old.

Then write your own code and a test on a bed,
And soon you will know there is nothing to dread;

And after you've played with and tried out your new toy,
Then send back an email to exclaim your new joy.

Or write out your thoughts about what you do think,
That maybe, just maybe, it may even just stink!

But whatever, I'll exclaim, as I open the site,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

(Shamelessly ripped off the Original, with no apologies for hacking it up. -- Dave)