

SPIRIT LIKE REAL BODY, SAYS DOYLE

"Sherlock Holmes" Also Finds Hell Is a Discredited Institution.

SLEEP FOLLOWS DEATH

Immaterial Being Seldom Is Able to Communicate With the Living.

Sherlock Holmes has gone in for spiritualism and has rejected hell as a career institution which may have been of use ages ago in frightening men to good behavior but which now is dropped from the thoughts of reasonable men.

Sir A. Conan Doyle has confessed his faith in spirit life and has written for the current issue of the Metropolitan Magazine his conception of the new life which the released spirits of men take on after a brief and restful sleep.

The passing of the spirit, he believes from the testimony of the departed themselves, to be easy and painless and to be followed by an enormous reaction of peace and ease.

"The individual finds himself in a spirit body, which is the exact counterpart of his old one, save that all disease, weakness or deformity has passed from it. The body is standing or floating beside the old body, and conscious both of it and of the surrounding people.

"Out of some two hundred and fifty cases carefully examined by Mr. Gurney, I think that one hundred and thirty-four of such apparitions are really of the moment of dissolution, when one could imagine that the new spirit body was possible so far material as to be more visible to a sympathetic human eye than it would become."

"These cases, however, are very rare in comparison with the total number of deaths. In most cases I imagine that the dead man is with the living, and with his own amazing experience to have much thought for others. He soon finds, in his surprise, that though he endeavors to communicate with those he sees, his ethereal voice and his ethereal touch are equally unable to make any impression upon those human organs which are only attuned to coarser stimuli."

Sees Lost Faces Again.

"Setting that aside, however, let us follow the fortunes of the departing spirit. He is presently aware that there are others in the room besides the one who were there in life, and among these others, who seem to him as substantial as the living, there appear familiar faces, and he finds his hand grasped or his lips kissed by those whom he had loved and lost. Then in their company and with the help and guidance of some more radiant being who has stood by him in the hour of his passing, he is led to his own surprise through all solid obstacles and out upon his new life."

"And now, before entering upon his new life, he has had a glimpse of sleep which varies in its length, sometimes hardly existing at all, at others extending for weeks or months beyond the usual period of a few days. That was the period also in case of which I had some personal evidence. Mr. Myers, on the other hand, said that he had a very prolonged period of unconsciousness. I could imagine that the length is regulated by the amount of trouble or mental preoccupation of this life, the longer rest giving the better means of wiping this out."

Spirit Weak After Sleep.

"Having weakened from this sleep, the spirit is weak, as the child is weak after birth. Soon, however, strength returns and the new life begins. This seems to be the point where we may discuss heaven and hell. Hell, I may say, drops out altogether, as it has long dropped out of the thoughts of every reasonable man. This odious conception, so blasphemous in its view of the Creator, arose from the exaggerations of Oriental phrases and it may perhaps have been of service in a coarse age where men were frightened by fear, as wild beasts are scared by the traveler."

FRENCH CLASSES FOR FIGHTERS

Fordham Will Open School in the Woolworth Building.

Fordham University's classes in French for the benefit of men in the army, the navy or the United States Coast Guard, will open on Friday, December 14, at 4 P. M., on the twenty-eighth floor of the Woolworth Building.

MIDNIGHT MASS TO BE SAID CHRISTMAS

Cardinal Farley Grants Privilege on Account of the War.

TO PRAY FOR PEACE

Letter to All Rectors Tells Why Ban Is Lifted This Year.

The news which thousands of Roman Catholics have been anxiously awaiting will be announced this morning at every mass in every Catholic Church in the archdiocese—that Cardinal Farley has sanctioned the midnight mass on Christmas. Throughout the archdiocese there has been more or less uncertainty among the faithful as to what would be the Cardinal's decision in the matter, but in his circular letter to the rectors of all churches under his jurisdiction, which will be read this morning, the Cardinal makes his position clear.

Formerly the outbreak of the great war Cardinal Farley was unalterably opposed to the holding of the midnight mass on Christmas. He had an idea that the privilege would be abused, but that such an idea was erroneous is admitted in that part of his letter in which he says: "My confidence in the faithful of the diocese was not misplaced. No abuses were reported. On the contrary, vast congregations taxed the capacity of our churches and practically every person assisting at midnight mass received Holy Communion."

Granted With Misgivings. The great war was responsible for causing Cardinal Farley to lift the ban which had been placed on the midnight mass. It was for the purpose of inaugurating a crusade of prayer to bring world peace that the Cardinal consented to permit the saying of the midnight mass, although he did so with some misgivings. He says: "I granted this permission with some misgivings, which were overcome by my desire for a crusade of prayer and supplication on the anniversary of our Saviour's birth, to improve a return of lasting amity and concord among the warring nations."

The United States into the war has been the determining factor in influencing the Cardinal to grant the privilege of attending midnight mass on Christmas this year to the thousands of Catholics in the archdiocese. The Cardinal has taken heed of the fact that this year a condition prevails in thousands of Catholic homes in his see which has never existed before—the absence of thousands of young men who have gone into the service of their country and left their loved ones behind to pray for their welfare. The absence of prayer for their home ties is a condition which the Cardinal could not overlook when the matter was put before him for a decision.

The Cardinal writes: "Our entrance into the war, the absence of so many Catholic fathers and sons from their happy family circles on this anniversary of our infant Saviour's birth, will lend added seriousness to the solemn sacrifice on Christmas night this year."

To Pray for Speedy Peace. In his letter Cardinal Farley dwells upon the important point, one which has influenced him in granting the privilege of the midnight mass—that of having the faithful pray for the welfare of the country's defenders on land and sea, and for the return of a speedy peace. "On this point he says: 'In announcing this concession to your congregation insist upon the important necessity of their prayers for the welfare of our beloved country, for the safety of the nation's defenders on land and sea, and for the speedy and amicable termination of the war.'"

In his letter Cardinal Farley lays stress on the fact that the celebrant of the midnight mass will make his main intention in favor of peace. On this point he says: "One of the intentions of the celebrant should be 'pro pace.'"

In anticipation of an enormous outpouring of souls at the church, the Cardinal grants permission for the saying of two masses in the same parish at the same hour. But the mass in the church must be a solemn high mass, while the one in the basement school hall or chapel may be a low mass if the rector so desires. But the regular solemn high mass at 11 o'clock must not be omitted where it can be celebrated.

WILL AID ARMY GIRL'S FUND.

Brooklyn Dances for Benefit of Transport Tobacco Work.

"An Army Girl's Transport Tobacco Fund," which works intelligently and enthusiastically to supply cigarettes, cigars and tobacco to men of the services while they are on transports, expects to realize a handsome sum from the benefit reception and dance to be held next Wednesday night at Tremmer's Hall, Bushwick avenue and Conway street, Brooklyn.

Margaret S. Caron, secretary of the fund, has received many letters from army officers who express their appreciation of what the fund has done to add to the comfort of soldiers on the momentous trip across the Atlantic.

SIGNAL CORPS UNIT IN NEW YORK GUARD

Many Members Saw Service on Mexican Border.

Under the command of Major James C. Fox a signal corps battalion has been mustered into the new New York State Guard. The new organization will take the place of the battalion now in Federal service at Camp Wadsworth. Men not subject to draft because of age limitations or some slight physical defect are preferred.

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS

Brooklyn's Greatest Store ABRAHAM AND STRAUS The Store Accommodating

Store Opens 9 A. M., Closes at 6 P. M. Telephone 6100 Main

Extraordinary Holiday Sales All Over the Store

A Christmas Waiver of the 7-Day Exchange Rule. In order to promote early Christmas shopping (thus increasing commercial economy and the welfare of all who serve the public at the holiday season) articles purchased for gifts may be exchanged at any time up to 7 days after Christmas.

A Sale of 200 Women's Satin Dresses Remarkably Offered at \$6.98. HUNDREDS of women there are who need just such little semi-dress frocks to supplement their more expensive dresses for many less important occasions.

Women's White French Kid Gloves, \$1.39 Pr. To see these gloves is to appreciate that \$1.39 is far from the regular price of these gloves.

400 Pairs of Women's Shoes, \$2.95 a Pair - Were \$4.95 to \$6.50. A half-a-dozen good models in present-selling styles. One-third of the quantity in lace style, the remainder in button effect.

85 Women's Extraordinary Winter Coats in a Great Sale. Range of Material Offered: Cut Bolivias, Velours, Heavy Mixtures, Brocaded Plushes, Broadcloths, Pom Poms, Plushes. At \$21.50. Fur-Trimmed With Raccoon, Dyed Coney, Nutria, (Dyed Opossum) or smartly plain.

Men's House Coats, Special \$3.75. Our regular price for these coats is \$4.50, and other stores ask more. Of handsome cloth, in plain dark colors, with the collars, cuffs and pocket facings trimmed with contrasting cloth.

Tea Wagons, \$10.25, from \$13.50. Only twenty-five wagons in this prize lot and at this low price they go quickly. Grand Rapids made, which means that they are unusually well constructed and finished as well as it can be done.

All But One Model Are Interlined and Lined Throughout; Many with Peau de Cygne. Colors include taupe, Burgundy, green, navy, black, purple.

Fibre Silk Portieres, \$6.85 Pr. From \$10.95. A straight reduction from our own stock involving about 60 pairs of these lustrous and effective reversible portieres, in about a dozen desirable combinations.

Japanese Cotton Crepe Kimonos Reduced to \$1.15. They are wonderful sellers right along at \$1.50. Of excellent Japanese cotton crepe, hand-embroidered in rose or chrysanthemum design; all with sashes. In rose, pink, lavender, Copenhagen, or light blue.

Monday Will Be a Great Day To Save Money in TOYLAND. With the frank intention of stimulating early buying in Brooklyn's Greatest Toy Store (there are only thirteen shopping days before Christmas) we have made sharp price-reductions on a remarkable variety of desirable Toys for Monday.

Metal Table Lamps, \$4.49 From \$5.98. For gas or electricity, with amber or Nile green art glass shade. A handsome gift. Candlesticks, 69c. From 98c. Pretty design of glass with fluted column, colored candle holder and flowered silk-covered shade.

Women's Fur Coats at the Season's Lowest Prices. About good furs, as about blue-white diamonds, a little knowledge is essential for appreciation. For that reason, the women who know Furs will best realize the extraordinary values of the garments which are being offered them at such phenomenal savings in this Sale.

A Sale of Silk Remnants Over 7,000 Yards at Fine Savings. Almost every sort of desirable Silk is included in usable lengths for blouses, dresses, skirts, fancy work, etc., in plain and fancy styles for street and evening wear.

Sterling Silver Bud Vases, \$3.85 Usually \$5.10. 12 inches high, in good weight and with hand-engraved border. Sterling Silver Tea Balls, \$1.74, Regular Price Is \$2.47.

Hudson Seal (dyed muskrat) Coats \$155 and \$175. 45 inches long, of fine, well-selected skins, skillfully matched.

Nutria Muffs Very Special at \$9.50. 45 and 47 inches long, of beautiful skins, perfectly matched and skillfully assembled.

Lot No. 1 98c Yd. Including: Taffeta, Messaline, Pongee, Foulard, Princess Poplin, Fancy Living Satin (Cotton back) Etc.

Lot No. 2 \$1.19 Yd. Including: Foulard, Satin, Taffeta, Checks, Satin Taffeta, Striped Silks, Crepe de Chine, Etc.

Natural Skunk Muffs Very Special at \$28.50. 45 and 47 inches long, of beautiful skins, perfectly matched and skillfully assembled.

Other Offers. Navy and Black French Serge, regularly \$1.59 yd., at \$1.19 yd. Street floor, Livingston st., West Bldg.

Lot No. 3 \$1.48 Yd. Including: Faile, Imported Silks, Impacted Corduroy, Striped Shirtings, Crepe de Chine, Satin Neiges, Brocades, Striped Lining.

Other Offers. 1,500 Men's Exceptional Shirts at 85c. Street floor, Fulton st., East Bldg.

Ready---The A. & S. Christmas Candies for Sunday School Celebrations. A. & S. Christmas Candies have been celebrated for years for their purity, their deliciousness—and their moderate prices. We are ready to receive orders from Sunday Schools, Institutions, etc., for their supplies of these Candies for delivery before Christmas.

Following is a list of the various sorts, together with prices: Assorted Chocolates, packed in 5-lb. boxes, \$1.20. \$1.35, \$1.45, \$1.55, \$2.45, \$3.45.

Assorted Tid-Bits, for filling favors: 6 lbs. \$1.35. American Mixed, 5 pounds, \$1.15. Marquette Chocolate, 1 lb., 85c.; 1 1/2 lbs., \$1.15.

Other Offers. Hawaiian Ukeleles, regularly \$5, at \$3.98. Music Store, Fourth floor, West Bldg.