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## A PERSIAN PROPHECY AND HOW IT MADE A FRENCH NURSE.

Working in the French hospitals at Salonika, and doing much to lighten the lot of the unfortunate Frenchmen who required her ministrations, is a most interesting character in a Baroness D'ange D'astre (writes the special correspondent of the Auckland Star). The story of how she came to take up nursing will bear relating. Some ten years ago she was spending some time in the British Museum, engaged in translating Persian poetry from, I presume, the original. In the course of her labors she came across the prophecy of a seer of the Middle ages, who had made a number of notable shots including a prophecy that

... was a prophecy that might be taken to forecast the French Revolution. What impressed the Baroness—and I should imagine that she is of a very impressionable temperament—was a prophecy that Europe would be deluged in blood between the years 1914-17, and that in the latter year a great battle would be fought on the plains of Acca—identified as being in Palestine. So great an effect did the reading of this seer's prophecy have on the Frenchwoman that after neglecting it for three years its constant presence in her mind so affected her that she spent every morning in a hospital in Paris qualifying herself for the time when her services would be needed by her country. After she had qualified, she began to lose faith somewhat in the prophecy, and by the time that 1914 came round she was entirely bereft of the conviction that had actuated her earlier in her serious endeavors to train as a nurse. Then came the small cloud of the Austrian Archduke's assassination at Serajevo, and the cloud grew as the various European countries joined the negotiations until it burst and Europe was engaged in such a storm as the ages had not seen. Madame the Baroness

found her mornings devoted to Parisian hospitals a labor not wasted, and to-day she is out at Salonika, effervescent, a small bundle of nerves and activity drawing from all possible agencies and quarters extra comforts for the French, and assisting in equipping the hospitals that the growing strength of their Balkan expedition demands

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