# Ruled

# Destiny! OFFICE HOURS

CHAPTER XX. RULED BY DESTINY.

THE brougham whirled Josine back

from the station, and she made her way at once to Lady Blanche. Her ladyship was lying down on the

couch in her room, and merely turned her head as Josine entered; her face was very pale, and there were dark marks undr the eyes, telling of the agony of suspense and actual fear she

"Well?" she said, her dark-brown eyes resting on Josine's face with feverish, haughty impatience.

Josine smiled, and began taking off her gloves as she would have done in the presence of an equal, and Lady Blanche flushed as she noticed the ac-

"It is all right, miladi!" said Josine. "Fortune has favored us, and Miss Carlisle has gone to London, to-ah, who cares where?-by the afternoon

Lady Blanche drew a breath of relief and turned her face away.

"Oh, yes, our little comedy has finished splendidly," went on Josine; "and it deserved to, for it was admirably conceived and carried out. But, ah Heaven, the trouble it was to convince mademoiselle that milord could

Lady Blanche leaned her face or

"You think that all is safe," she said, coldly, "whereas I can see that affair. Do you think that Lord Norman will not write to her-follow badly. I am sorry that that I was forde \_\_\_" tempted to have anything to do with it." And she began to pace the room.

"Miladi loses courage when the battle is over," she said. "Bah! there is little sense in that. Pardon!"—for at once!" Lady Blanche had turned on her with fierce hauteur-"Pardon, but is it not true, miladi? Is not mademoiselle gone, never to return?"

Lady Blanche smiled bitterly.

"My poor girl," she said, scornfully; "I fear that she will return, all too quickly, and that our punishment will be as speedy. Lord Norman is no fool-not a man to be deceived and bullied-"

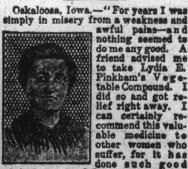
"Bullied, no, perhaps; but deceived, yes!" retorted Josine, showing her teeth. "Any man can be deceived, miladi. Bah! it is easier than de-

ceiving a woman." "You may try," said Lady Blanche, grimly. "And first, you will have to account for Miss Carlisle's absence. I have been going over the whole shameful husiness while you have been away, and I wish to Heaven that I had had nothing to do with it!"

The reaction had set in after the time of excitement; and fear, actual fear, had taken possession of Lady

"To account for mademoiselle's

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work for me and I know it will help others if they will give it a fair trial."

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reasons," said Josine. "First here is

it on the table Lady Blanche glanced at it and

turned pale A sharp pang of pity, actual pity for Floris, shot through her heart. and then it turned to stone again. She pushed the telegram away with

"Lord Norman will follow her imnediately he returns from Scarfross." she said, with an air of conviction.

"Ah, well then, he must not see this we are only at the beginning of the telegram!" rejoined Josine. "And now for the other reason for mademoiselle's disappearance. What if we say her? Josine, I fear that this will end that she went off with Milord Clif-

she thought the girl had taken leave

enjoying the amazement she had excited. "It is certain that Miss Car- room. lisle was met at the station by Milord Clifforde, for I saw him!"

Lady Blanche smiled contempt-"No one will believe that, my good

Josine shrugged her shoulders. "On my bare word? Perhaps no! there, and traveled to London in the How is she?" same car with Miss Carlisle! Others

knew him--" pale and breathless.

"Can it be possible?" she murmur-

Josine laughed.

strange coincidence, certainly, a hap- gone has left Ballyfloe." py chance. Accident is favorable to us. is it not? Now see, what is easier than to put this telegram on the fire -so"-she flung the telegram in the grate as she spoke-"and to say that we know nothing excepting that a telegram came , from some one or somewhere, and that Miss Carlisle did start for London at once, and that Milord Clifforde met her at the station. make no accusations! No, Heaven forbid!" she went on, with a smile. "I say nothing! Ah, no, I'll not say the telegram came from Milord Clifforde? Certainly not! I do not say that it was an appointment—their meeting at the train but-others will. All the ladies here who love scandal, The Maritime and Milord Norman will believe

Lady Blanche stood regarding her with breathless intentness.

"I shall tell no lies!" said Josine, oolly. "I shall tell the truth-all but excepting the telegram. That I know nothing about, save that it came! You may see, miladi, that the trump cards are all in our hands; we have just to play them, so!"

see, miladi, that the trump cards are all in our hands; we have just to play them, so!"

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Lady Blanche sank into her chair

Suppress the telegram! Another crime! Step by step she was sinking to the lowest depths of deceit and mental depravity.

had set out upon the sea of falsehood, and must drift, drift, drift with the

She must decide at once. In a short

and going to her jewel-case took out a Ladies from Hell, \$1.75.

Almost solemnly she held them out What I Found Out, 75c. to Josine, who stood watching her The Secrets of the German War

"Take these," she said; "it is the reward we agreed upon. I give them to you willingly-you have earned hem. But from this moment I will have nothing more to do with the af- Outwitting the Hun, \$1.75. lisle's flight, and will say nothing, reot expect me to help you or to bear A History of the Great War, 2.25 noment I wash my hands of the busi-

"That is well said, miladi! Truly Between now is the time for miladi to wash her

"All is over and finished-yes! And is quite wise of miladi to know noconsequences will work out themselves. And as to Josine-well, she And she took the telegram and laid will know nothing, absolutely nothing; and as to Monsieur Raymond-" Lady Blanche started; for the mo-

ment she had almost forgotten him. "He, too, will be very glad to forget! I am going now, miladi. Is there anything I can do for you?" Lady Blanche shook her head, and Josine, with a respectful courtesy, de-

Two hours afterward the party from

laughing on the terrace outside, and

How could she face them all, she, with so black a secret, so heavy a Josine, calmly and demurely put-

ting out Lady Betty's evening attire, ed Josine. To her the whole thing was a keen repeated. "What use would be such enjoyment, and in anticipation she Where is she? Floris!" and she ran a lie as that, which would be detected was reveling in Lady Betty's astonish to the door and called, "Where are ment and perplexity.

"We are late, Josine!" she said; "we must be quick."

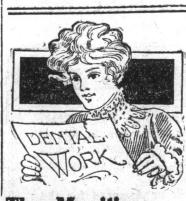
"It has been delightful, Josine," said Lady Betty, who had enjoyed her-But all the same, Milord Clifforde was ry that Miss Carlisle was not with us.

"Better, miladi. Mademoiselle has saw him-the porter-the guard, who gone out," demurely. "Gone out!" said Lady Betty, slip-Lady Blanche sprang to her feet, ping off her habit. "I'm glad of that; it will do her good. But she ought to

be in by this time, or she will be awfully late for dinner." "Miladi misunderstands me," said

"It is quite true, miladi! It was a Josine, suavely; "mademoiselle has Lady Betty turned, and stared at

"Left Ballyfloe! Miss Carlisle!



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low don't be an idiot. Josine. Wha

"Miladi, I tell you only what I know of my own knowledge! Mademoiselle yards of 36-inch material. The skirt has gone—left Ballyfloe! She went measures about 1% yard at the foot. by this afternoon's train!' Lady Betty flung herself into Floris'

Josine had tidied it up, but ther were still traces of the packing, and no signs of Floris. With something like a cry of alarm,

Lady Betty darted back and confront

Presently they came trooping up- Josine stood with a dark smile on stairs, and Lady Betty entered the her, face, and Lady Betty came back

panting and breathless. "Miladi, it is quite true. I do assure you," said Josine, suavely. "Mademoi "Certainly, miladi. Has miladi had selle left Ballyfloe this afternoon.

"You did!-and it is not a toke! Then-then, why did she go?" Josine shrugged her shoulders and pursed her lips.

"She left some message-some note for me?" said Lady Betty, almost tragically. "Where is it?" "No; mademoiselle left no note for miladi," replied Josine, gravely; "but message—ah, yes; she said that I was

to tell miladi she would write." "She would write! But why did she go-why did she go?" demanded in, crepe, gabardine, foulard, silk or Lady Betty, in a frenzy. Josine shrugged her

"Was she sent for?" "Yes, there was a telegram, miladi." "You obstinate pig-why couldn't you say so?" almost shricked Lady Betty, driven frantic by Josine's assumed nonchalance. "Miladi didn't ask me."

gram from?" Josine stared with well-simulated indignation.

"How should I know that, miladi No. I do not know. Mademoiselle burnt it-carefully burnt it." "Burnt it!" repeated Lady Betty

'Well-and then?" "And then mademoiselle directed ne to pack her box, and order a carriage for the station; and I did so, and ccompanied mademoiselle."

"And she has gone up to London by erself!" wailed Lady Betty. "Lord Norman will go out of his mind!" (To be Continued.)

## Fads and Fashiens.

White smocks are collated, cuffed

Long coats with fitted bodies are avorites for Paris suits. A hat of leghorn straw is with pale pink taffeta silk. Shell-pink organdie makes the daintiest of summer frocks. less this rule is adhered to. Separate skirts have hems of trasting material and color.

## **Plates**

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2488-In organdie, batiste, dotted swiss, foulard or linen, this model will oe very attractive. It is nice also for crepe, gabardine, serge and other wool fabrics. The bolero could be of con-

trasting material. The Pattern is cut in 3 sizes: 16 18 and 20 years. Size 18 requires 5 A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents

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The Pattern is cut in 6 sizes: 34, 26. 33, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 7% yards of 44-inch material. The skirt measures about 2 yards at the foot.

"Ask you! And who was the tele- A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps,

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# Australian-Car

Name of Germ Law. French

WAR REVIEW.

ters of more or less importance al the battle line in France, there been activity of significance in bearing on the general tense si tion from the North Sea to Switz land on the British front. East Amiens Australian troops with w Americans are brigaded, have pu forward from the village of Ha a front of almost four miles at point last Thursday in their last sault they have surged ahead at centre of the new front which created last week. The opera was successful in that the object were reached and the positions ta are being held by the men from southern side of the Lys salient has been quite heavy artillery, pecially in the Hinges sector during the fighting in April whe Germans had pushed far ahead Flanders area. The battle north east of Hinges was one of the desperate in characaer, the villa Locon being the scene of repe combats in which the German tacks were crushed by the British Oise, Soissons and Rheims region ly patrol encounters have been ported. The Americans and F have been quite active near Cl Thiery where the French have some advance in the neighborh Hill 204 on the north side of the Americans attacked and car the Village of Vaux last week French report some measure cess in this fighting, while the mans claim that the French and erican assaults were repulsed heavy losses. Austrian troops been pushed across the stream. ing the offensive last fall they ed the new channel of the riv pushed forward for some west toward the old river bed. abortive offensive last month across the old course, but were back by the Italians. Since the ians have been steadily forging in this region. Positions on the bank of the river have been ab ed. This restores to the Italia west bank of the Piave from west of the Montelle Plateau sea and writes the final chapt the story of the Austrian dri that sector of the Italian fi the mountains the Italians hav all the ground they have won cent fighting east and west Brenta River. There seems to ! inclination that fighting of a s character may be impending west end of the line where it through Albania. Vienna repo heavy attack there, by French Italian troops.

THE FATEFUL HOUR UPON

The coming German blow be less dangerous because of the employed in preparing for it, bu comforting to know that the n sponsible for the command of t lied armies are confident of the Andrew Bonar Law declared night at a dinner to the delega the Parliamentary Commercial ference. It is impossible to i the future, he said, but I do that the fateful hour is upon u if in another three months ou mies have won no strategic then their campaign will have and it will, I hope, be a decisive ure. The Germans possesses most perfect military machine ever existed, but the Chancellor he believed that when the histo the war was written it would that Germany had made greater tary mistakes than any other I He instanced the submarine v which had brought the United into the war. He doubted Germany would get as much Russia as she expected. Wh the German soldier had plante foot the name of Germany v loathed for generations. Mr. Law said he trembled to think would have been the position Allies after Russia went out war but for the help of the States. He had not despaired of sia, who was like a patient in lirium. It was impossible, ho to tell what the future might The population of the enemy was 154,000,000, that of the I Alliance 1,200,000,000. That in was a league of nations with