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PRINCESS NAPRAXINE BY OUIDA.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

PRINCESS NAPRAXINE.

BY

OUIDA,

AUTHOR OF "SIGNA," "BIMBI," "WANDA," ETC.

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PRINCESS NAPRAXINE.

CHAPTER I.

WHEN her husband and her guests came downstairs at one o'clock, they found the Princess Nadine looking her loveliest.

"Oh you lazy people!" she cried to them. "Are you any the better for sleeping like that? Look at me. I have been swimming half-an-hour; I have dictated twenty letters; I have scolded the gardeners, and I have seen three boxes from Worth unpacked; it is only one o'clock, and I can already feel as good a conscience as Titus. I have already saved my day."

"I daresay you have only been doing mischief," said Lady Brancepeth. "I should like to see the letters before I judge of the excellence of your actions."

"Anyone might see the letters; they are all orders, or invitations, or refusals of invitations; quite stupid, but very useful; epistolary omnibus horses driven by the secretary. When I had done with them, I had my half hour's swim. What nonsense