# A SON OF THE MORNING: INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF RICHARD DAVIES

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A Son of the Morning: Incidents in the Life of Richard Davies by William C. Allen

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# WILLIAM C. ALLEN

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Trieste

# A SON OF THE MORNING

## INCIDENTS

IN THE

## LIFE OF RICHARD DAVIES

BY

### WILLIAM C. ALLEN

" They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever."

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PHILADELPHIA PORTER & COATES 1894

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#### PREFACE.

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THE subject of this narrative was a typical Friend of the early days. To contemplate a life like his, cannot fail to interest and instruct professing Christians of any creed. He was a man whose naturally energetic temperament was sanctified by Divine grace. His abounding faith, and undaunted courage, and his zeal in the cause of religious liberty, excite our admiration and reverence. He adhered to his convictions of duty in the midst of a time-serving and bigoted generation. And when his busy life was accomplished, he was ready to receive the Christian soldier's crown,

#### PREFACE.

The writings of the Society of Friends are full of stirring incidents and rich in purest gems of heavenly thought. Many other accounts of the lovely lives of those "Sons of the Morning" offer as choice reading as does the biography of Richard Davies. It is hoped this little volume may incite my readers to still further investigate the hidden treasures of Friendly literature.

THE AUTHOR.

Denver, Col., 9th mo. 18th, 1894.

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### I

#### THE EARLY LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EXPERI-ENCES OF RICHARD DAVIES.

I<sup>T</sup> was the custom of the early Friends, after the death of members who were conspicuous in the church, to write individual testimonies to the worth and zeal of the departed ones, that others might be incited to emulate their virtues. One of the most beautiful and affectionate of these testimonies is that of Rowland Owen, in which he speaks in loving terms of his deceased Friend, Richard Davies. The latter must have been a rare man to have deserved the quaint yet ten-

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der eulogium of his surviving companion. Rowland Owen says :

" O the wonderful wisdom and love of God! who called him and many others, in those days, and prepared and qualified them for the great work He had to do, and strengthened them to tread the way before us, who were weak and feeble. O how strong and bold and valiant instruments did the Lord God prepare to begin to strike at the great image of pride, haughtiness, etc., that was then and yet is in the world |-Indeed their memorial is worthy to be recorded; that ages yet to come might see what the Lord hath done for His faithful ones, who gave up their lives and all they had, on Truth's account.

"I was acquainted with our said Friend for about forty years, and I can say of a truth, that his service was great in the Church of Christ, especially in times of persecution; he having much interest with the magistrates, and them in author-