

August 6, 1890 – CHESTER TIMES

DEATH OF JOHN H. IRWIN – John H. Irwin, inventor, Morton's benefactor and most prominent and wealthy citizen, died suddenly of heart disease in the Adirondack Mountains, in the northern part of New York State on Monday of last week, where he had gone for a few weeks recreation in company with his friend, Joseph Moore, Esq., of Philadelphia, who hoped to regain his failing health. Mr. Irwin was out in a boat rowing with a young man, and was chatting with a party of ladies, in another boat nearby, when he fell over and died instantly. When he left Morton on the 28th day of June, Mr. Irwin was not regarded as a sick man. He had exhausted his energies by overwork and had gone on the trip with his sick friend, Mr. Moore, to take a rest in the hope of regaining his strength, so that when the telegram announcing his sudden death was received here by his nephew, C. B. Warren, the whole community was shocked.

John H. Irwin was born in Trenton, N.J. on June 9th, 1839. His parents in a short time hereafter removed to Springfield, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. His whole life was devoted to inventions and experiments. He was the inventor of the tubular lantern, from which he received a royalty of \$25,000 a year for many years. Some 200 patents were granted him for various inventions and improvements thereon.

Mr. Irwin came to Morton in 1871. His property here, known as Faraday Park, comprises 140 acres of beautiful and valuable land. Upon it he located a fine residence, experimental laboratory, machine shop, an electrical plant, and gas works. As a citizen John H. Irwin did more for the improvement of Morton than all other persons combined. He opened the cottage on his premises for the Episcopal services which resulted in the organization of the Church of the Atonement, and afterward donated a lot and contributed some \$3,000 out of his own pocket toward the erection of the edifice on Franklin Avenue. It was he who proposed the publication of the Chronicle, and he backed up the proposition by supplying the necessary funds, and afterward extended sufficient patronage to enable the publisher to cancel the debt. He was the president of the Faraday Heat, Power and Light Company, in which he was greatly interested, and he had planned to build a large establishment in Morton for the manufacture of electrical apparatus. His body was brought to Morton Wednesday. The funeral took place from his late residence at a 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, services being conducted by Rev. Samuel Edwards.

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