## The

## Ontario Weekly Notes

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## HIGH COURT DIVISION.

MIDDLETON, J.

APRIL 14TH, 1914.

## FORTUNE v. NELSON HARDWARE CO.

Master and Servant—Injury to Servant—Fall of Elevator— Fault of Plaintiff or Fellow-servant—Negligence — Defective Condition-Evidence-Finding of Trial Judge.

Action for damages for injuries sustained by the plaintiff in the defendants' shop, where he was working for them, by reason of the fall of an elevator in which he was being carried. The plaintiff alleged negligence.

The action was tried without a jury at Sandwich. T. M. Morton, for the plaintiff.

M. K. Cowan, K.C., for the defendants.

MIDDLETON, J.: The plaintiff sues at common law to recover damages for injuries sustained on the 29th March, 1912, when an elevator upon the defendants' premises, in which he was, fell. The action was not begun till the 9th January, 1914; so no remedy can be had under the Workmen's Compensation for Injuries Act.

The elevator fell because the wire hoisting cable had become worn and frayed, and so weakened, and the safety-device for some reason did not work. There was no defect in the elevator, and the safety-device was one which ought to have been sufficient. No reason for its failure on this occasion was shewn or in any way indicated.

The plaintiff, as the senior clerk in the shop, had a general charge over the whole place, and knew of the condition of the rope, and failed either to report it or to have it repaired. At