

purpose of conveying material to the different storeys as they were erected. This hoist was not intended for passenger use, and consisted of a bucket or platform upon which materials could be placed and elevated. It being removed from the hoist through openings left in the walls for that purpose. These openings were between 2 and 3 feet wide and about 5 feet high. The platform was hoisted by a cable passing over a wheel at the top of the elevator shaft and operated by a drum driven by a stationary engine erected at some little distance from the foot of the hoist. This drum was attached to the main shaft, driven by the engine, by means of a friction clutch. It could be freed from this shaft by releasing the clutch and when so freed it could be held in position by a dog which engaged with a ratchet wheel attached to one end of this drum. This same shaft also operated a fixed drum or winch called in the evidence "a niggerhead." It was close beside the free drum and its attachments, and when the friction clutch was free could be operated independently of the drum used for operating the hoist.

On the day in question the building, so far at least as the exterior walls and heavy interior construction was concerned, was nearing completion. The time had arrived when the temporary holes in the wall could be stopped and the hoist removed. Schofield, the bricklayer, and Johnston, his assistant, were engaged in filling up these holes. Material had been taken up in the hoist and had been used in building-up the holes in the wall from the inside. From the inside it was possible to build the lower part of this filling both inside and outside; but when the top was reached the inside alone could be completed and the outside would have to be completed from the outside. Johnston had descended to the ground by the stairway and ascended in the elevator, on the platform, taking with him mortar, bricks, etc., for the purpose of completing the holes on the outside. When he had reached a point opposite the highest hole the hoist was stopped and Schofield stepped out of a permanent window opening near the hoist on to the platform. Almost at the same moment the elevator fell and both men were thrown to the ground, a distance of some 53 feet. Singularly enough, each man suffered almost precisely similar injury, his back was broken. Fortunately both are making good recovery.

It appears that at the time of the accident the cage was held suspended by the dog in the ratchet wheel, the clutch