

DASHED TO DEATH.

HENRY MARTIN FALLS SEVENTY-FIVE FEET

From the Top of the New Capitol and Instantly Killed—A Terrible Accident to a Laborer This Afternoon—Full Particulars of the Affair.

Henry Martin, a colored brick mason at the new State capitol, met a horrible death this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Martin came from South Carolina and commenced to work at the capitol last Monday.

He was given a wheelbarrow and put to hauling mortar from the "hoist" to where the brick masons were at work on the north wall. He had to work on the topmost scaffold, which was eighty feet from the basement floor, and had quite a wide passage way in which to move.

This afternoon a few minutes before two o'clock he stopped where the masons were at work and began to unload the wheelbarrow. He spoke to one of his co-laborers as he raised his shovel and said:

"I am getting mighty tired of this sort of work, and don't think I will keep at it much longer. I am going to take my wife and go back to South Carolina next Saturday night. I can make more money farming than I can hauling mortar."

As he was speaking Martin was standing between the handles of the wheelbarrow, and just as the last words were spoken, the wheelbarrow tilted, one of the handles striking the negro on the right leg. His left foot was near the inside edge of the scaffold, and the blow was strong enough to cause him to lose his balance.

"Oh, my God," he was heard to exclaim, and in another moment he was falling headlong to the earth, eighty feet below. His wheelbarrow went after him, and both could be heard crashing through the floor timber and other scaffolds in their fearful descent.

On the floors the boards have not yet been laid, and the unfortunate negro in his fall struck on several iron plates, which were afterwards found bespattered with blood.

Falling on the inside of the outer wall, he struck the soft earth under the north entrance to the building, and his body was buried three or four inches by the force of the fall.

When he was first reached he was still breathing, but expired in three or four minutes without speaking. His right arm and hand were terribly lacerated, and his head and face horribly crushed and mutilated.

The deceased's wife, who lives on Gilmore street, was sent for, but could not be found.

Martin was about thirty years of age, and was but little known in the city.

The coroner has been notified and an investigation will be held this afternoon.