

## STAND BACK !

PASSING along a street of wholesale warehouses I noticed in an open doorway the above words in large bold letters. Curiosity led me to stop and ascertain the reason for the warning. I found it was not, as I had supposed, a doorway, but an entrance to the elevator with a considerable depth below for delivery of goods to the basement. The need of the warning was apparent, and as I passed on I recalled to mind another and a deeper pit from which there is no recovery, and I thought too of all that has been done to warn man of his danger and to make a way of escape.

Now dear reader will you with me consider this matter a little. I suppose you are accustomed to deliberate on any thing which promises to be to your advantage or disadvantage, and as this is of vital interest to you why not now in a sensible way consider the whole question.

You have sinned against God—all have sinned—scripture says so ; and while you are not responsible for the nature you have inherited, you are responsible for the sins you have committed, and the judgment is “the soul that sinneth it shall die.” If you had never committed but one sin you are condemned, and if condemned what ransom or propitiation can you offer? you have none ; God is holy and righteous ; cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance or approbation, and you have sinned against Him