

### "I DID AS THE REST DID."

This tame, yielding spirit—this doing "as the rest did"—has ruined thousands.

A young man is invited by vicious companions to visit the theatre, or the gambling room, or other haunts of licentiousness. He becomes dissipated, spends his time, loses his credit, squanders his property, and at last sinks into an untimely grave. What ruined him? Simply "doing as the rest did."

A father has a family of sons. He is wealthy. Other children in the same situation in life do so and so, are indulged in this thing and that. He indulged his own in the same way. They grew up idlers, triflers and fops. The father wonders why his children do not succeed better. He has spent so much money on their education, has given them great advantages; but alas! they are only a source of vexation and trouble. Poor man, he is just paying the penalty of "doing as the rest did."

This poor mother strives hard to bring up her daughters genteelly. They learn what others do, to paint, to sing, to play, to dance, and several useful matters. In time they marry; their husbands are unable to support their extravagance, and they are soon reduced to poverty and wretchedness. The good woman is astonished. "Truly," says she, "I did as the rest did."

The sinner, following the example of others, puts off repentance, and neglects christianity. He passes along through life, till, unawares, death strikes the fatal blow. He has no time left now to prepare. And he goes down to destruction, because he was so foolish as to "do as the rest did."—Golden Rule.

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VOLTAIRE.—Nearly a hundred years ago, Voltaire resided at Geneva. One day he said to some friends, in a boastful, sneering tone; "Before the beginning of the nineteenth century, Christianity will have disappeared from the earth!" In that same house, in that same room where these impious words were spoken, what think you there is to-day? A large deposit of Bibles! The sacred books fill the house from the floor to the ceiling! So much for Voltaire's prediction!