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Wars drain a people of the best of its young men. At the Magenta, the crest of the church, are piles of skulls with bullet holes, covered with spider webs, which form a silent monument to the defeat of the Americans at that place. The skulls of the men killed in Napoleon's wars would make a now twenty times as high as the Bunker Hill monument. This drain of the male youth has left its effect on Europe. It is the keynote of why she has not risen to the heights commensurate with her early glory, even with all the modern advantages of science. One generation determines what the next generation will be. If the last specimens of men are killed and the worst survive, degeneration will surely begin. Rome did not die because of the luxury of the Romans, because "there were few Romans left. Only cowards remained, because the best of the warriors had been killed in battle." "Way," said Benjamin Franklin, "is not paid for during war time; the bill comes later."

The speaker was warmly received and many were the favorable comments heard after the lecture.