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Electric Fire Apparatus. The march of mechanical improvement which led to the old-time fire engine, worked by hand, being displaced by the modern one which applies steam as a pumping power, is likely to cause another change by the introduction of electricity as the force for operating fire engines. Our esteemed contemporary, "The Argus," gives the following description of an electric automobile engine, hose cart and hook and ladder truck recently added to the fire department of Paris, France. In spite of the highly reprehensible opposition of some civic officials there will be additions soon made to the appliances of this city's fire brigade. In view of this it would be well to examine into the merits of the apparatus adopted at Paris.

"The engine adopted by the Paris department consists of a large tank, filled with water, mounted upon an electric automobile carriage, and is provided with an electric pump and a reel of hose. The motor used for propelling the vehicle serves to work the pump, and an ingenious arrangement of wheels and cogs permits the action of the motor to pass almost instantly from the traction gear to that of the pump. Everything is arranged for rapidity of action. The hose carried on the engine reel is made of rubber encased in wire, which preserves its cylindrical form, so that it can be kept constantly filled with water, even when it is rolled up tightly on the reel. The hose is connected with the pump through the hollow axle of the reel, so that when the engine arrives at the scene of a fire no time is lost in unrolling the entire length of the hose and waiting for it to become filled with water. It is only necessary to turn a cock and the water is pouring on the flames. Storage batteries carried in a box suspended under the body of the waggon furnish the electricity for operating. These batteries supply sufficient power for a run of thirty-eight miles without recharging."

Capture of Aguinaldo.

The recent capture of Aguinaldo was a clever piece of detective work. The event is regarded as the end of the organized rebellion against the United States in the Phillipines. Considering with what ease the capture of this famous chieftain was effected, it is a mystery how he has kept the United States army at bay so long. General Funston, who planned the capture, had only a few score men under his command, and his trick to draw Aguinaldo into a trap was such a stale one, it is amazing how successfully it worked. The Phillipine hero must have a streak of great simplicity in his nature to be drawn into a practically defenceless position under any pretext, short of a formal request for a conference with the enemy, with his personal safety guaranteed. General Funston's feat opens out a new style of warfare. Instead of armies meeting in battle array, under leaders of military genius, there will now be a demand for clever detectives who will be engaged to concoct some ingenious plot for capturing the chief in command. What millions of money and of lives would have been saved had some trap been laid to capture Napoleon earlier in his career, and had there been wisdom enough in his captors to keep him quiet. Many American papers condemn the trick which was played on Aguinaldo as "mean," "low down," says one journal, "a disgrace to the American army and nation," says another. But the general verdict stands by the old saying: "All is fair in love and war." We should have swallowed the meanness if a few dozen British scouts had captured Kruger, or De Wet by as clever a scheme as brought Aguinaldo into a fatal trap. We fear the States, like Great Britain, will have prolonged trouble in establishing permanent peace in the new possessions. As "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind," the people of the United States and of England ought to be sympathetic with each other in these affairs.