

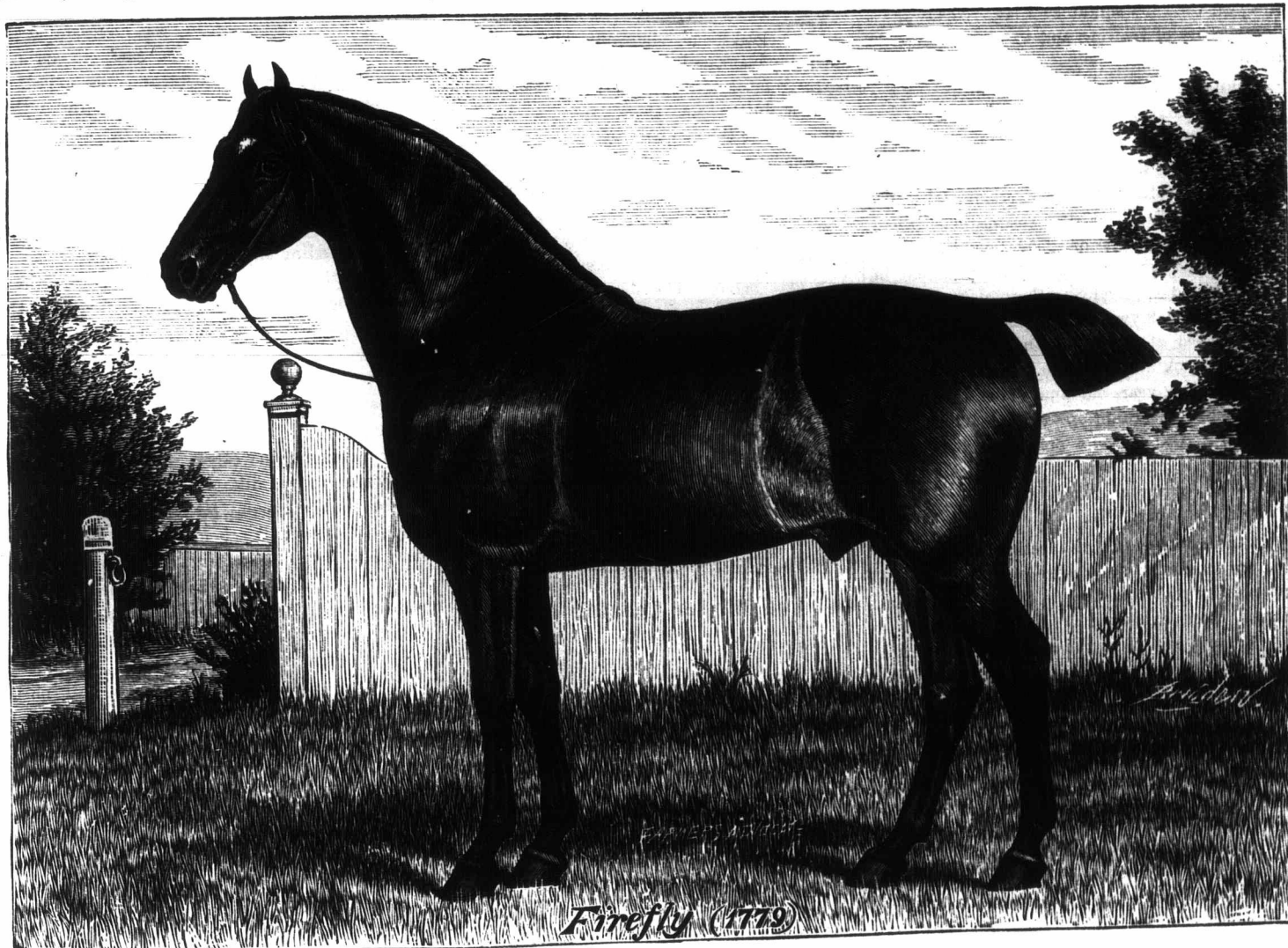
Stock.**Messrs. Beith's Hackneys.**

Messrs. Robert Beith & Co., of Bowmanville, Ont., have long been noted as breeders and importers of extra good and well-bred Clydesdales. This year they added to their grand stable of Clydesdales, several Hackney stallions. Firefly (1779), of which we give an illustration, is a very handsome stallion; stands 15½ hands high, is of a rich bay color, and three years old. He is perfectly sound and good-tempered, and calculated from his superior individual merit and good pedigree, to get valuable weight-carrying hunters, and grand carriage horses. He was

English Coach horse with its society and its stud book (the Yorkshire Coach Horse Stud Book), and that there is a Hackney Horse (or, as I once proposed to denominate him, the English Trotting Horse) with its society and its stud book (the Hackney Stud Book). The English Coach horse may be, and often is, nearly of pure galloping blood, but is not eligible for entry in the general stud book because there is a stain in the pedigree. A Hackney may not have two successive crosses of racing blood, and the best bred horses have very little of it. He traces his descent from the variety which was established some 150 years ago by a large use in Norfolk of Arab and Barb blood on mares of the old English trotting variety, which documentary evidence

Norman harness horses, the progeny of the Norfolk hackney and the Norman horse, for carriage work.

There also may be a temptation to misuse the English term Coach horse for those Hackneys which run to 15.3 hands and up to 16.2 hands. This plea for a correct use of terms may consequently not be deemed out of place. The Prince of Wales is going in for horse-breeding as a business. His Norfolk estates—Sandringham and its surrounding district—have much land well adapted for the breeding of horses. Shire horses are being bred, and an extensive area not long ago reclaimed from the sea is just the thing on which to bring up the young stock with an abundance of hair and plenty of size. What may be spoken of as the Home Farm, near Sandringham house, is where thorough breds are to be cared for. Close to the Wolferton railway station, the nearest station to Sandringham, a farm of 350



THE PROPERTY OF MESSRS. ROBERT BEITH & Co., BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

bred by John Houlden, Langton, Malton, York, and was purchased by Mr. McNair at the late London Hackney Show, where he was greatly admired. His sire was the famous Hackney stallion, Triffit's "Fireaway" (249), dam, "Nance" (1291) by "Pottinger." "Fireaway" is one of the best Hackney stallions on record, and his blood prevails in almost all the famous horses of the class. A full review of Messrs. Beith's stables will be given in an early issue.

The Hackney Horse.

BY MR. HENRY E. EUREN, NORWICH, ENGLAND.

By calling attention to the inaccurate use of the names of our English horses a difficulty at some future time may be prevented. On two occasions recently I found a paragraph in leading American papers respecting an importation of Hackney horses under the description "English Coach Horse." Canadians should know that there is an

proves has been in the Norfolk district for hundreds of years. The result was a trotting horse with a gait like that which the Americans now cultivate (prints of 90 years ago show this), but which a change in fashion and travel has replaced by quite another style of trot. In England we used the word "Hack" and "Hackney" indifferent senses. A lady's hack or a park hack may be nearly of pure racing blood or it may be bred anyhow. A Hackney is the trotting horse of which I have spoken above. The word "hackney" at the time of its introduction by the Norman Conquerors simply meant a horse; just as did the Norse word "nag." By the middle of the fourteenth century the term "hackney" was applied only to riding horses having the trotting gait, just as nag came to be and is yet applied to any riding horse. Americans have chosen to give the name French Coach horse to the Anglo-

acres has been devoted to the use of a Hackney and hunter stud farm. The buildings at this farm are very good, but plain, and there is quite a business air about the whole of the arrangements. Sir Dighton Probyn, the comptroller, and Mr. Beck, the estate agent, have been selecting a stock of Hackney brood mares with much judgment, and have covered them with the best Hackney stallions that were available.

The Italian government has this year—as it has in many years past—been buying some of the best of Hackney stallions at prices ranging as high as \$5,000 for use in the State breeding establishments. We may also add, as an item of news that may interest Americans, that the next London show of the Hackney Horse Society, to open on Tuesday, March 5, 1889, and to extend over four days, will be a grand aggregate show by the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Hackney Horse Society, and the Hunters' Improvement Society—a display of blooded stallions such as has never yet been seen.