

The Dynasty of Domino

by Rommy Faversham

Along with a powerful affinity for America's dirt tracks, the male line of Domino enjoyed a subtle yet important relationship with Australasia

AS America shifted its racing sensibilities in the late 19th century, from the long-established emphasis on stamina to that of speed, it was, more than any other, the great thoroughbred Domino who came to embody this essential quality of the new era. In the generations that followed, Domino's prodigious array of superior descendants continued to exert their inherited advantages of brilliance and precocity.

The male line of Domino was introduced into the U.S. by his great-grandsire, *Eclipse (by Orlando, a son of Touchstone) who was imported to New York in 1859. Eclipse's son Alarm is considered to be the first great American sprinter.

With the recent extinction of the tail-male lines of Lexington and Ben Brush, the oldest viable sire line(s) of American origin are those of Alarm's son Himyar (1875) who continues to survive through his best two sons, Domino (1891) and the Kentucky Derby winning Plaudit (1895).

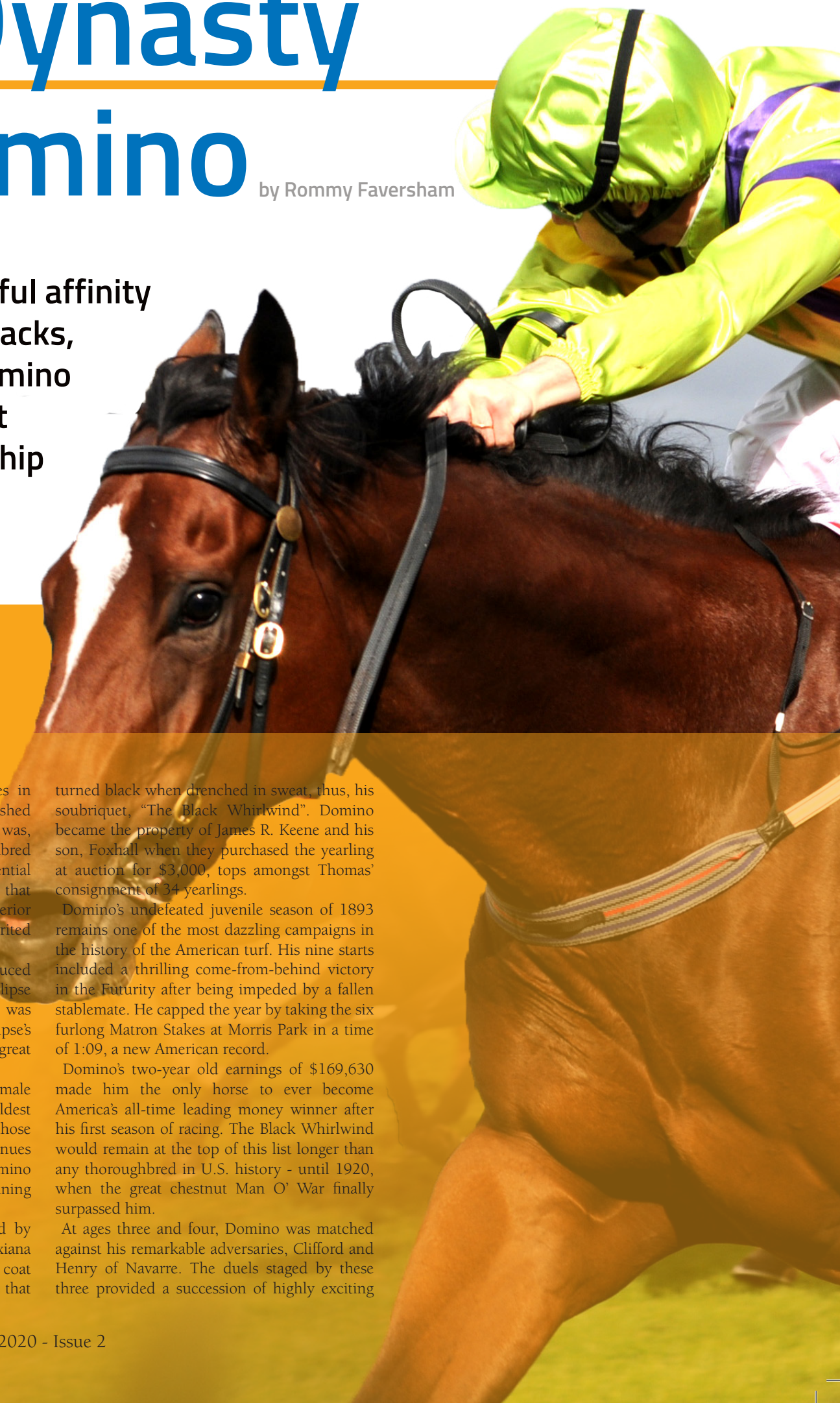
Like his sire Himyar, Domino was bred by Major Barak G. Thomas at legendary Dixiana Farm in Lexington, Kentucky. The colt's coat was described as a deep, rich brown that

turned black when drenched in sweat, thus, his soubriquet, "The Black Whirlwind". Domino became the property of James R. Keene and his son, Foxhall when they purchased the yearling at auction for \$3,000, tops amongst Thomas' consignment of 34 yearlings.

Domino's undefeated juvenile season of 1893 remains one of the most dazzling campaigns in the history of the American turf. His nine starts included a thrilling come-from-behind victory in the Futurity after being impeded by a fallen stablemate. He capped the year by taking the six furlong Matron Stakes at Morris Park in a time of 1:09, a new American record.

Domino's two-year old earnings of \$169,630 made him the only horse to ever become America's all-time leading money winner after his first season of racing. The Black Whirlwind would remain at the top of this list longer than any thoroughbred in U.S. history - until 1920, when the great chestnut Man O' War finally surpassed him.

At ages three and four, Domino was matched against his remarkable adversaries, Clifford and Henry of Navarre. The duels staged by these three provided a succession of highly exciting





Domino, colt, 1891

HIMYAR B 1875	Alarm	Eclipse	Orlando	Touchstone	14a
			Gaze	Vulture	13a
		Maud	Stockwell	Bay Middleton	1s
			Countess of Albemarle	Flycatcher	1s
	Hira	Lexington	Boston	The Baron	24
			Alice Carneal	Pocahontas	3n
		Hegira	Ambassador	Lanercost	3j
			Flight	Velocipede mare	15d
MANNIE GREY Blk 1874	Enquirer	Leamington	Faugh-a-Ballagh	Timoleon	A24
			Pantaloon mare	Florizel mare	
		Lida	Sarpedon	Rowena	13
			Lize	Emilius	28
	Lizzy G	1 War Dance	Reel	Trapes	9b
			1 Lecompte	Leviathan	7
		Lecompte Mare	Edith	Charlotte Hamilton	2a
				Sir Hercules	2t
				Guiccoili	11d
				Pantaloon	17a
				Daphne	14
				Boston	
				Alice Carneal	12a
				American Eclipse	3a
				Gabriella	A18
				Boston	
				Alice Carneal	12a
				Glencoe	1t
				Gallopade	23b
				Boston	
				Reel	23b
				Sovereign	17d
				Judith	23b

CRYSTAL LILY
2010 Golden Slipper Gr.1 winner

and brilliant affairs which, in turn, sparked a heightened sense of interest and enthusiasm for racing in America.

At the conclusion of his phenomenal racing career, Domino was moved to his master's farm, Castleton Stud near Lexington where Keene had installed his brother-in-law Major Foxhall Daingerfield as manager. Overwhelmingly, Daingerfield chose English broodmares as mates for his new stallion. Most of the mares came from sales at Newmarket and Doncaster and had been selected by the influential British turf writer and horse broker William Allison whose approach was obtaining young stock that were light on racing class but had strong relations throughout their given families. This was the same successful approach Allison used later on when selecting a number of key European broodmares for Man o'War during his early years at stud.

It was indeed a colossal loss when Domino died just one month after completing his second season at stud. The official cause of Domino's death was given as spinal meningitis, but horsemen who apparently knew the habits of

this kind, but exuberant stallion always believed he was paralyzed, and dead soon thereafter, from a catastrophic fall after rearing up on his hind legs in his paddock. At the request of James Keene, carved into his gravestone were the bitter-sweet words, “Here lies the fleetest runner the American turf has ever known, and one of the gamest and most generous of horses.”

Eminent turf historian John Hervey followed, “it may truly be said that no other progenitor that has died so young has done so much for the breed.” Domino only sired a total of twenty foals, all Keene-breds, but seven or 35% of them became stakes winners. Hervey pointed out that Keene’s decision to ship several of Domino’s best offspring to race in England probably cost his stallion a U.S. sire title. This included Disguise who captured the 1900 Jockey Club Stakes beating that year’s English Triple Crown winner Diamond Jubilee, as well as Cap And Bells who won the 1901 Epsom Oaks by six lengths.

Back in the States, Domino’s greatest runner and heir to his male line, Commando, was the best of his generation at two and, again, at age three when his overwhelming speed carried him to victory in the 1901 Belmont Stakes in record time. Good natured like his sire, Commando was described by his trainer, the great James G. Rowe Sr., as the most intelligent horse he ever handled.

Of Domino’s nine male foals, only Disguise and Commando enjoyed significant careers at stud. Disguise was returned to Keene’s Kentucky farm where he became a valuable purveyor of speed. His most famous offspring was Hall of Fame filly Maskette who, in two champion seasons, never lost to another of her gender.

Commando, having broken down midway through his three-year old campaign, was returned to Castleton where he became the farm’s second great champion whose life at stud was dramatically shortened. After only four attenuated crops, he died as a result of tetanus from a cut sustained to his foot. Like his sire, the magnitude of Commando’s premature demise would not be wholly appreciated for years to come.

As he had with Domino, Daingerfield provided Commando with a majority of English bred mares and, in some cases, their Castleton-bred daughters. Remarkably, Commando achieved similar results when, from only 27 foals, he sired ten stakes winners (37%). Of particular note was Commando’s profound sex bias, as his sons (9 SWs from 16 foals) became outstanding runners and sires while his daughters (1 SW from 11 foals) hardly ever distinguished themselves, either as runners or producers.

In 1907, two years after his death, Commando became America’s leading sire as his sons controlled both the two and three-year old divisions. Dominating the juvenile ranks was unbeaten champion Colin whose peerless trainer, James G. Rowe Sr., would make the remarkable request that the epitaph below his name on his own gravestone simply read, “He trained Colin”. That same year, sons of Commando ran one-two in the Belmont Stakes as three-year old champion Peter Pan outfinished Brooklyn Handicap winner Celt. Commando’s seasonal earnings of \$270,345 surpassed the record amount of \$249,502, set in 1893 by his

grand sire Himyar during the juvenile exploits of Domino.

As Castleton’s master of matings, Daingerfield believed in the powers of close inbreeding, particularly as it applied to Domino. On several occasions, he bred a Domino mare to Disguise or Commando, creating a 2X2 pattern to his foundation stallion. Commando’s final foal, Ultimus, out of the Domino mare Running Stream, was described as a sensational Keene yearling who failed to ever reach the post. In time, Ultimus became an outstanding sire of

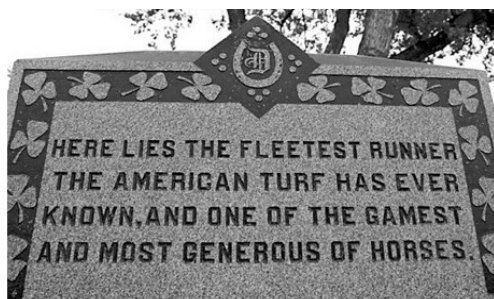
juveniles and prior to his premature death at age fifteen, he sired 28 stakes winners from only 126 foals (22%). Daingerfield’s daughter, the well known horsewoman Miss Elizabeth Daingerfield, later became a key contributor in the development of this branch. As manager of Wickliffe Stud, she promoted the remarkable mating that produced one of Ultimus’ most influential sons and a leading sire, High Time - out of the Domino mare Noonday, thus uniting three strains of the Black Whirlwind within just three generations. Ultimus issued ➤➤

Table 1 - The Domino sire line

DOMINO (1891) champion at 2 & 3, Horse of the Year, Hall of Fame / 7 SWs
Disguise (1897) Jockey Club S., 3rd Epsom Derby / 15 SWs
MASKETTE (1906) Champion filly at 2 & 3 / Hall of Fame
Helmet (1906) Hopeful S., Champagne S.
Iron Mask (1908) Grand Union Hotel S., Toboggan H.
▪ ELFIN QUEEN (1916) Champion juvenile filly
Cap and Bells (1898) Epsom Oaks
Running Stream (1898) July S.
▪ COMMANDO (1898) Horse of Year at 2 & 3 / leading sire 1907 / 15 SWs
Superman (1904) Brooklyn H., 2nd Belmont S. / 12 SWs
▪ Gladiator (1917) Toboggan H., Knickerbocker H. / 2 SWs
Surf Rider (1919) Champagne S.
Superlette (1922) Beldame H., Fall Highweight H.
Peter Quince (1905) / 14 SWs
▪ Papp (1915) Futurity S., United States Hotel S.
Miss Joy (1919) Spinaway S., Flash S.
Peter King (1921) Juvenile S.
Transvaal (1905) / 8 SWs
Boniface (1915) Clark H. / 3 SWs
Celt (1905) Brooklyn H. / leading sire 1921, 30 SWs
Dunboyne (1916) Futurity S. / 1 SW
Polka Dot (1916) Coaching Club American Oaks
Touch Me Not (1918) Lawrence Realization S. / 4 SWs
Glade (1925) Pimlico Futurity, Matron S.
Ultimus (1906) 26 SWs
▪ Luke McLuke (1911) Belmont S. / 15 SWs
▪ NELLIE MORSE (1921) Champion 3yo filly
ANITA PEABODY (1925) Champion juvenile filly
High Cloud (1916) / 17 SWs
Holyrood (1933) Pimlico Futurity / 7 SWs
▪ Maecloud (1934) Spinaway S., Schuylerville S.
High Time (1916) / leading sire 1928, 37 SWs
SARAZEN (1921) Horse of Year at 3 & 4, Hall of Fame
HIGH STRUNG (1926) Champion juvenile colt / 6 SWs
Star Fiddle (1946) Del Mar Futurity S.
Zacaweista (1926) / 15 SWs
Buzfuz (1942) Jerome H, Toboggan H, Vosburgh H
Step Lightly (1918) Futurity S.
Infinite (1921) / 17 SWs
Economic (1929) Tremont S. / 2 SWs
Inlander (1930) Travers S., Classic S.
Supremus (1922) / 20 SWs
ALCIBIADES (1927) Ky. Oaks, Champion juvenile filly
Dynastic (1930) Champagne S.
Stimulus (1922) Pimlico Futurity / 39 SWs
Cousin Jo (1928) Kentucky Oaks
Risque (1928) Spinaway S.
Clang (1932) Carter H.
Danger Point (1934) Metropolitan H. / 0 SWs
Merry Lassie (1935) Spinaway S.
Dinner Date (1936) Spinaway S.
Stir Up (1941) Wood Mem. S., Flamingo S.
BEAUGAY (1943) Champion juvenile filly
PETER PAN (see Table 2)
COLIN (see Table 4)

Champions in CAPITAL LETTERS

▪ dam carried the blood of an Australasian-bred sire



DOMINO'S headstone

several other important sons at stud including the consistently ranked Stimulus and Supremus in addition to Belmont Stakes winner Luke McLuke, sire of two champion fillies (who warrants further mention later in this article). By the 1950s, however, this intensely inbred son of Commando no longer existed in tail-male line.

The early development of the Domino sire line is detailed in Table 1. Following the deaths of J.R. Keene and Major Daingerfield in 1913, a dispersal of Castleton's celebrated stock was held at Madison Square Garden in New York. It represented the greatest sale of thoroughbred stallions and broodmares ever held in the U.S. The Commando stallion Celt was purchased for \$20,000 by Arthur B. Hancock Sr. and returned to his Ellerslie Stud in Virginia where he died in 1919, two years before leading the general sire list. Domino's son Disguise fetched \$5,300 at the sale, ultimately winding up in California at Rancho Wikiup where he lasted until 1927.

The highest price paid at the dispersal was \$38,000 by Harry Payne Whitney for the nine-year old stallion Peter Pan. Just three days earlier, Whitney's Pennant, a son of Peter Pan, had captured the prestigious Futurity Stakes. The prominent horseman had previously purchased Pennant as a yearling from Keene for \$1,700.

With Peter Pan and Pennant standing at his private stud, H.P. Whitney established a major branch of the Domino sire line (see Table 2). Much of the success reaffirmed strategies first implemented at Castleton. This included the demonstrably strong affinity enjoyed by the Domino line with that of Ben Brush.

Another was the creation of highly effective inbreeding patterns to the female family of Domino, particularly through his dam, Mannie Gray. This was first evidenced in the pedigrees of top Keene runners such as Maskette and later became apparent among a large number of Whitney's best Domino-line winners and producers. This process was particularly feasible since many of the Whitney mares carried the blood of leading stallion Hamburg whose grand dam was Mannie Gray. This was made possible when Hamburg was purchased at auction by H.P. Whitney's father, William Collins Whitney in 1900 and then re-purchased by the former following the latter's death in 1904.

The Whitney Stud and stable also benefitted from the services of former Keene conditioner James Rowe. In all, nine of Rowe's record-setting 34 American champions were tail-male descendants of Domino.

Table 2 - The Peter Pan branch of the Domino line

PETER PAN (1904) Belmont S, Champion 3 yo colt, Hall of Fame/ 48 SWs	
PUSS IN BOOTS (1913) Champion juvenile filly	
VEXATIOUS (1916) Champion 3 yo filly, Alabama S.	
PRUDERY (1918) Champion filly at 2 & 3	
TRYSTER (1918) Champion juvenile colt / 9 SWs	
Prudish (1919) Coaching Club American Oaks	
Laurano (1921) Metropolitan H. / 0 SWs	
Macaw (1923) Carter H. / 5 SWs	
Croyden (1923) Jerome H., Manhattan H.	
Nixie (1925) Alabama S., Test S.	
Peter Hastings (1925) / 4 SWs	
▪ MATA HARI (1925) Champion filly at 2 & 3	
Petrose (1934) / 11 SWs	
Pet Bully (1948) Woodward S., Fall Highweight H. / 9 SWs	
Pennant (1911) Futurity S. / 39 SWs	
Bunting (1919) Futurity S. / 8 SWs	
MAUD MULDER (1922) Champion juvenile filly	
Valorous (1924) Champagne S., Manhattan H. / 2 SWs	
▪ Mary Jane (1924) Kentucky Oaks	
Bonnie Pennant (1925) Spinaway S.	
Red Rain (1933) Hopeful S., Saratoga Special	
Flying Lee (1935) Kentucky Oaks	
The Chief (1935) Brooklyn H., Dwyer S.	
▪ Dauber (1935) Preakness S. / 1 SW	
Maeda (1936) / 1 SW	
DELEGATE (1944) Champion sprinter	
EQUIPOISE (1928) Horse of Year at 4 & 5 / leading sire 1942, 9 SWs	
Attention (1936) Metropolitan H. / 6 SWs	
Equestrian (1936) / 2 SWs	
STYMIE (1941) Chmp older male, Hall of Fame / 12 SWs	
Joe Jones (1950) Bay Shore H., Vosburgh H.	
Rare Treat (1952) Ladies H.	
..... Flying Missel (1945) / 4 SWs	
Man of Iron (1955) AJC & QTC Sire's Produce S.	
Bolingbroke (1937) Mnhttn H (3X), Jcky Clb Gld Cup / 3 SWs	
LEVEL BEST (1938) Champion juvenile filly	
Swing and Sway (1938) Whitney S. / 4 SWs	
Saggy (1945) / 9 SWs	
Outer Space (1954) Mother Goose S., Beldame H.	
CARRY BACK (1958) Chmpn 3 yo colt / 12 SWs	
Taken Aback (1966) Spinster S.	
Toter Back (1967) Matron H.	
Shut Out (1939) Ky. Derby, Belmont S., Travers S. / 15 SWs	
One Hitter (1946) Pimlico Special, Manhattan H. / 4 SWs	
Hall of Fame (1948) American Derby	
Social Outcast (1950) Remsen H., Whitney H.	
EVENING OUT (1951) Champion juvenile filly	
Black Toney (see Table 3)	
..... imported from the U.S. to Australia	
Champions in CAPITAL LETTERS	
▪ dam carried the blood of an Australasian-bred sire	

The long term survival of the Peter Pan/Pennant branch may have been hindered most severely by the early death of its premier representative, Equipoise. Known as "The Chocolate Soldier", the Whitney charge was a two-time Horse of the Year who died of enteritis after producing only four crops and nine stakes winners from 74 total foals (12%). In 1942, Equipoise became the third Domino-line stallion to win a U.S. sire title posthumously.

The last exceptional member from the Pennant wing of Domino was the popular 1961 three-year old champion and Hall of Famer Carry Back. By the 1980s, this once highly prosperous branch was effectively extinct.

Another rich branch of Domino was initiated by acclaimed owner and breeder Col. Edward

R. Bradley when he paid \$1,600 in 1912 for the Keene-bred yearling, Black Toney. After a moderate racing career, the son of Peter Pan was sent to Bradley's Idle Hour Stud near Lexington where he became the farm's foundation stallion. The development of this extensive branch is charted in Table 3.

Bradley, who became known for giving all of his home-breds names beginning with the letter B, followed the approach initiated at Castleton by providing his stallions a steady book of European broodmares. The most famous of these was his immortal *La Troienne who, to the cover of Black Toney, produced the only full sibling tandem in American Racing's Hall of Fame, Black Helen and Bimelech. ➤➤

Table 3 - The Black Toney branch of the Domino line

Black Toney (1911) / 40 SWs

MISS JEMIMA (1917) co-Champion juvenile filly
 BLACK GOLD (1921) Kentucky Derby, Hall of Fame
 Beau Butler (1921) Pimlico Futurity
 BLACK MARIA (1923) Champion filly / mare at 3, 4 & 5
 Black Panther (1924) Brooklyn H.
 BLACK HELEN (1932) Champion 3yo filly, Hall of Fame
 Big Hurry (1936) Selima S.
 Broker's Tip (1930) Kentucky Derby / 1 SW
 MARKET WISE (1938) co-Champion handicap horse / 4 SWs
 Wise Margin (1950) Pimlico Cup, Gulfstream Park H. / 1 SW
 To Market (1948) Arlington & Wash. Park Futurity / 23 SWs
 High Bid (1956) Alabama S., Gallorette S.
 Oink (1957) United Nations H., Citation H.
 Viking Spirit (1960) Californian H., Carter H. / 4 SWs
 HURRY TO MARKET (1961) Champ. 2 yo colt / 8 SWs
 A Letter To Harry (1974) New Orleans H.
 Marking Time (1963) Acorn S.
 Rising Market (1964) San Carlos H. (2X) / 14 SWs
 Modus Vivendi (1971) Del Mar Oaks, Palomar H.
 Commissary (1966) Del Mar Oaks, Vanity H.

Black Servant (1918) Blue Grass S. / 11 SWs

BABA KENNY (1928) Champion juvenile filly
 BARN SWALLOW (1930) Champion 3 yo filly
 BIG PEBBLE (1936) Champion handicap horse / 3 SWs
 BLUE LARKSPUR (1926) Horse of the Year, Hall of Fame / 44 SWs
 MYRTLEWOOD (1932) Champion sprinter & older female
 Sky Larking (1935) Hopeful S.
 Crowfoot (1938) / 4 SWs
 Nell K. (1946) Acorn S., Gazelle S., Top Flight H.
 Easy Spur (1956) Florida Derby, Fountain of Youth S.
 Jamie K. (1950) / 3 SWs
 Jammed Lovely (1967) Queen's Plate S.
 PAINTED VEIL (1938) Champion 3 yo filly
 Blue Swords (1940) Remsen H. / 17 SWs
 Nothirdchance (1948) Acorn S.
 Blue Man (1949) Preakness S., Flamingo S. / 5 SWs
 Blue Volt (1949) San Luis Rey H.
 Our Page (1940) Spinaway S.
 Elpis (1942) Coaching Club American Oaks
 Revoked (1943) Washington Park Futurity / 26 SWs
 Rejected (1950) Santa Anita H., Hol. Gold Cup / 7 SWs
 Reneged (1953) Jerome H., Manhattan H. / 20 SWs
 FURL SAIL (1964) Champion 3 yo filly
 Blue Grass (1944) Kentucky Oaks
 BUT WHY NOT (1944) Champion filly & handicap mare
 Bee Ann Mac (1944) Selima S.
 Three Rings (1945) Queens County H. (2X)

BIMELECH (1937) Champion 3 yo colt, Hall of Fame / 30 SWs

Be Faithful (1942) Hawthorne Gold Cup, Beverly H. (2X)
 Bymeabond (1942) Santa Anita Derby / 4 SWs
 Brookfield (1942) / 10 SWs
 Invigorator (1950) Brooklyn H., Cowdin S. / 2 SWs
 Blue Border (1944) Hopeful S., Grand Union Hotel S.
 Better Self (1945) Carter H., Gallant Fox H. / 14 SWs
 Tamarona (1959) Selima S.
 Time Tested (1962) Toboggan H., Great American S. / 9 SWs
 Az Igazi (1971) Sanford S., Saratoga Special
 Guillotine (1947) Futurity S., Carter H. / 0 SWs
 Hilarious (1950) Tremont S. / 14 SWs
 Fast Hilarious (1966) Amer. Derby, Gulfstream Prk H / 10 SWs
 Hail Hilarious (1973) Apple Blossom H., Gamely S.
 Register (1953) Spinaway S.

BALLADIER (1932) Champion juvenile colt / 16 SWs

▪ Spy Song (1943) Arlington Futurity / 28 SWs
 Sly Pola (1957) Pr. De L'abbaye De Longchamp
 Sari's Song (1961) Arlington-Washington Futurity
 Royal Note (1952) Arl. Futurity, Bashford Manor S. / 16 SWs
 Little Tumbler (1958) Futurity S., Alcibiades S.
 Forgotten Dreams (1964) Hol. Juv. Chmpnshp S. / 0 SWs
 Princess Roycraft (1967) Test S.
 Viva La Vivi (1970) Monrovia H., Correction H.
 CRIMSON SATAN (1959) Champion juvenile colt / 33 SWs
 Oil Power (1966) Lawrence Realization
 QUEEN LOUIE (1968) Champion 2 yo filly in Canada
 Krislin (1969) Delaware H.
 Crimson Saint (1969) Hollywood Express H.
 Whitesburg (1969) Bashford Manor S. / 29 SWs
 DOUBLE JAY (1944) champion juvenile colt / 45 SWs
 Manotick (1952) Ladies H., Molly Pitcher H.
 DOUBLEDODGARE (1953) Champion filly at 2 & 3
 Tick Tock (1953) Vosburgh H., Toboggan H.
 Miss Blue Jay (1954) Test S., Schuylerville S.
 Bagdad (1956) Hollywood Derby, San Antonio H. / 30 SWs
 Drin (1963) Del Mar Derby, Cinema H.
 Old Bag (1963) / 3 SWs
 Holding Pattern (1971) Travers S., Champagne S.
 Saber Mountain (1963) San Felipe H., San Vicente S.
 Harem Lady (1964) Manhattan H.
 Fiddle Isle (1965) Carleton F. Burke H. (2X) / 5 SWs
 TURKISH TROUSERS (1968) Champion 3 yo filly
 Tarboosh (1969) Saratoga Special S. / 1 SW
 JUST A GAME (1976) Champion turf mare
 Shirley Jones (1956) Test S., Molly Pitcher H.
 Irish Jay (1957) Spinaway S., Acorn S.
 Sunrise Flight (1959) Tropical Park H. (2X) / 8 SWs
 Bupers (1961) Futurity S. / 12 SWs
 Honky Star (1971) Monmouth Oaks
 Spring Double (1963) Pimlico Futurity / 22 SWs
 Travelling Music (1978) Sapling S. / 3 SWs
 Rose Argent (1966) / 1 SW
 Gusty O'Shay (1971) Hopeful S.
 Honey Jay (1968) / 16 SWs
 Sweet Missus (1980) Top Flight H.
 Mr. Music (1948) / 21 SWs
 Mr. Jive (1954) Cowdin S., Gotham S.
 Seven Thirty (1958) Delaware H., Black Helen H.

Champions in CAPITAL LETTERS

▪ dam carried the blood of an Australasian-bred sire



DOUBLE JAY (Balladier - Broomshot, by Whisk Broom)

Table 4 – The Colin branch of the Domino line to Ack Ack

COLIN (1905) Horse of the Year at 2 & 3, Hall of Fame / 11 SWs
Jock (1924) / 5 SWs
On Watch (1917) / 12 SWs
Sortie (1925) Brooklyn H. / 6 SWs
Split Second (1933) Selima S.
Magic Hour (1935) Lawrence Realization / 1 SW
Valdina Myth (1938) Selima S., Kentucky Oaks
Tick On (1929) Hopeful S. / 6 SWs
Observant (1931) Travers S.
Time Clock (1931) Florida Derby
WAR PLUMAGE (1936) Alabama S., Champion filly at 3 & 4
Brazado (1936) / 5 SWs
Curandero (1946) / 3 SWs
Inclusive (1960) San Luis Rey H.
Neddie (1926) / 9 SWs
My Celeste (1946) Molly Pitcher H.
Nedayr (1935) Pimlico Futurity / 17 SWs
Good Goods (1931) / 5 SWs
ALSAB (1939) Champion colt at 2 & 3, Hall of Fame / 16 SWs
MYRTLE CHARM (1946) Champion juvenile filly
Sabette (1950) Alabama S.
Armageddon (1949) Champagne S., Withers S. / 7 SWs
Battle Joined (1959) Saratoga Special / 13 SWs
ACK ACK (see Table 5)
Champions in CAPITAL LETTERS



ACK ACK (Battle Joined – Fast Turn, by Turn-to)

It was, however, Black Toney’s son Balladier who furnished this line with its greatest depth and longevity through his sons Spy Song and Double Jay, the latter a four-time leading broodmare sire. In time, this line began to wane as its fillies were, increasingly often, better than its colts. By the 1990s, the Black Toney branch was, indeed, no longer viable.

The only segment of the Domino sire line that has survived to the present is that of his best paternal grandson, Colin (see Table 4), who was perfect for masters Keene and Rowe in his fifteen lifetime starts.

Despite its longevity, the Colin branch was never a major contributor to the Domino legacy during its early to mid-century heyday. Colin’s early years at stud in England proved a relative waste when the young stallion was poorly supported. By the time he was returned to the U.S. and sold for \$30,000 at the 1913 Keene dispersal, Colin was showing signs of reduced fertility. Always a shy breeder, he produced only 81 foals from 23 crops, getting eleven stakes winners (14%).

Colin’s tail-male heirs, his son Neddie and grandson Good Goods, were neither outstanding runners nor good sires, but they did pass the torch to their line’s temporary savior, Alsab.

A \$700 yearling purchase, Alsab proved a champion at both two and three. His pedigree featured the distinct 3X3 cross of great-grand sire Colin with his three-quarter sister, Verdure. Alsab’s best son, Armageddon was succeeded by Battle Joined, sire of 1971 Horse of the Year Ack Ack.

Alsab and his great-grand sire Ack Ack are the only two members of the Colin branch to reach Racing’s Hall of Fame. In turn, Ack Ack was best represented at stud by his richest son, three-time Grade 1 winner and 1994 leading sire Broad Brush.

Interestingly, inbreeding to the female families along Domino’s tail-male line has been a recurrent pattern within the surviving line of Colin. Include is inbred to the family of Broad Brush (Hidden Talent 4X5), Broad Brush is inbred to the family of Ack Ack (The Squaw II 4X6), while Alsab and Armageddon were inbred to the family of Colin (Pastorella 4X4 and 5X5X5, respectively). ➤➤

Table 5 – The lone surviving Domino branch through Ack Ack

ACK ACK (1966) Horse of the Year; Hall of Fame / 55 SWs
▪ YOUTH (1973) male turf champion, French Derby / 16 SWs
Teenoso (1980) Epsom Derby / 5 SWs
Sharaya (1980) Prix Vermeille
Young Mother (1986) Prix Vermeille
Acks Secret (1976) Santa Margarita H., Gamely H.
Caline (1976) Santa Susana S.
Truce Maker (1978) / 2 SWs
Southern Truce (1988) Santa Monica H.
Rascal Lass (1982) Fantasy S.
▪ Broad Brush (1983) Santa Anita H.; leading U.S. sire 1994 / 93 SWs
Schossberg (1990) Jerome H., Iselin H. / 2 SWs
Concern (1991) Breeders’ Cup Classic / 8 SWs
Good Night Shirt (2001) Steeplechase Champion
Pompeii (1997) Personal Ensign H.
Mongoose (1998) Donn H. / 5 SWs
FARDA AMIGA (1999) Champion 3 yo filly
Quest Star (1999) Pan American H. (2X) / 0 SWs
Include (1997) Pimlico Special / 50 SWs
Panty Raid (2004) American Oaks Inv., Spinster S.
Cash Included (2004) Oak Leaf S.
FEROX (2007) Champion 3 yo colt & stayer in Panama
Include Me Out (2008) Santa Margarita Inv. S., C.L. Hirsch S.
Her Smile (2008) Prioress S.
Redeemed (2008) Brooklyn H., Discovery H. / 0 SWs
SOCIOLOGA INC (2010) Champion older female in Argentina
Include Betty (2012) Mother Goose S., Fantasy S.
Riker (2013) Grey S., Canadian champion 2 yo colt
SOBRADORA INC (2012) Champion 3 yo filly in Argentina
MISHEGAS (2014) Horse of the Year in Puerto Rico
Champions in CAPITAL LETTERS
▪ dam carried the blood of an Australasian-bred sire

Domino Down Under



INVINCIBLE GEM
I Am Invincible - Diamond Day, by Marwina

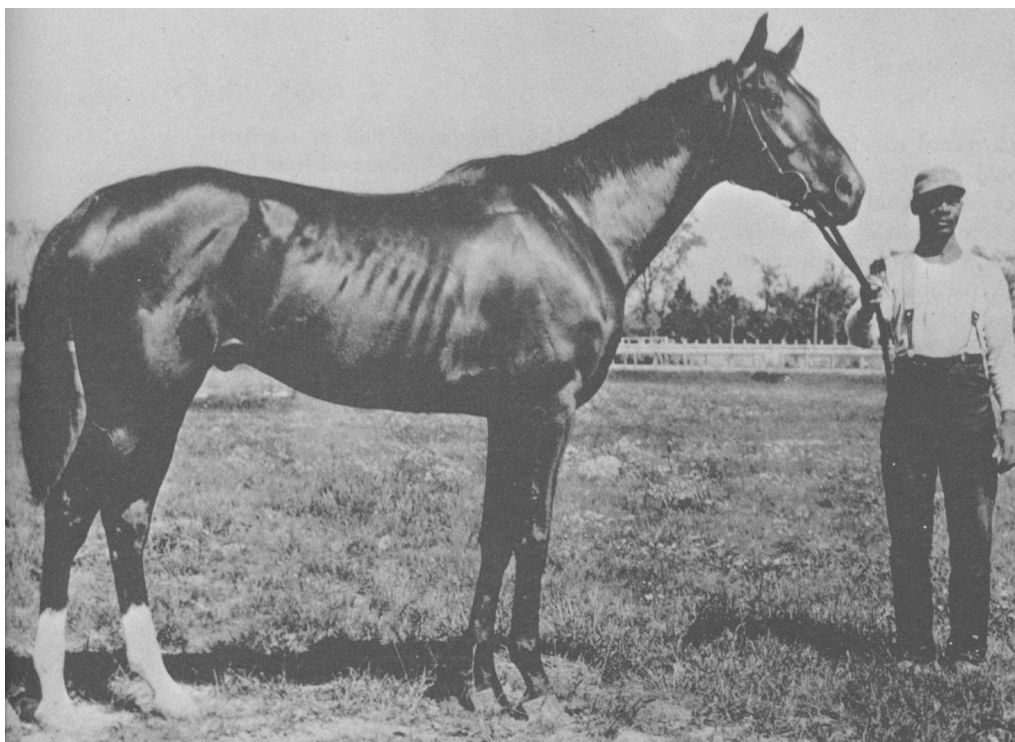
Even though the importation of stallions to the U.S. from Australia and New Zealand were relatively infrequent during the Domino sire line's heyday, those few were indeed significant. The most important was Victoria-bred Darebin, by The Peer (GB), who was imported by California breeder James Ben Ali Haggin to his Rancho del Paso near Sacramento in 1886. The former Sydney Cup winner sired a total of 7 stakes winners for Haggin including Emma C. who would become the dam of Domino's premier son Commando, responsible for the overwhelming majority of his sire's overall tail-male influence (see Table 1).

A year earlier, Haggin imported New Zealand-bred Sir Modred, by Traducer (GB), another winner of a number of important events. In 1894, Sir Modred became the leading U.S. sire issuing 20 stakes winners in all while standing at Rancho del Paso including the dams of Futurity winner Papp and champion filly Elfin Queen. In later years, his blood also appeared in the dams' pedigrees of champion filly Mata Hari and her sire son Spy Song as well as Preakness winner Dauber (Tables 1, 2 & 3).

Australian-bred Trenton and New Zealand-bred Abercorn were easily among the highest class of runners before they were exported to England,

Nellie Morse, filly, 1921

LUKE MCLUKE 1911	Ultimus	Commando	Domino	Himyar	2a
			Emma C	Mannie Grey	23b
		Running Stream	Darebin	Guenn	14e
			Guenn	Himyar	12a
	Midge	Trenton	Domino	Mannie Grey	2a
			Dancing Water	Isonomy	23b
			Musket (GB)	Pretty Dance	19a
		Sandfly	Frailty	Toxophilite	14
			Sandiway	West Australian mare	3h
				Goldsbrough	3d
LA VENGANZA 1902	Abercorn	Chester	Yattendon	Flora Mclvor	13a
			Lady Chester (GB)	Sterling	18
		Cinnamon	Fireworks	Isola Bella	12a
			Brown Duchess	Doncaster	19a
	Colonial	Trenton	Musket (GB)	Clemence	5e
			Frailty		2h
			Paradox	1 Sir Hercules	3h
		Thankful Blossom	The Apple	Cassandra	17
				Stockwell	3n
				Austrey	8k



DOMINO (USA) 1891 . colt by Himyar - Mannie Grey, by Enquirer

the former in 1896 having already become a two-time champion sire in his native land, the latter moving in 1898.

Once in England, Trenton sired Midge (USA) who was shipped in utero to J.R. Keene at his Castleton Stud where she ultimately became the dam of Luke McLuke, 1914 Belmont Stakes winner and an important sire of Ultimus. Concurrently, Trenton was sire to Colonial (GB) who, like the unborn Midge was sent to the U.S. in 1901, specifically to Haggin's Rancho del Paso, while she was in foal to the Abercorn filly La Vengaza (USA).

A remarkable coupling of these two Australasian sires was culminated when La Vengaza was, in turn, bred to Luke McLuke. The resultant foal was Nellie Morse who became the fourth filly to win the middle jewel of the American Triple Crown, the Preakness Stakes. As described, Nellie Morse's pedigree demonstrates 3X3 inbreeding to Trenton.

Trenton also appeared in the bottom half of the pedigrees of Toboggan Handicap winner, Gladiator, as well as Kentucky Oaks and Spinaway Stakes heroines Mary Jane and Maecloud, respectively (Tables 1 & 2).

The only Australian stallion with a significant role in the development of the Domino line during the second half of the twentieth century was Royal Gem, by Dhotei. A versatile performer with victories in almost a dozen top level Australian venues including the Caulfield Cup, Royal Gem was purchased by U.S. interests following his six year-old racing season and brought to stand at Hermitage Farm in Kentucky. He appears in the third generation of American turf champion Youth, by Ack Ack, whose broodmare sire was Royal Gem's Kentucky Derby winning son Dark Star. Royal Gem also appears in the fifth generation of Ack Ack's male line torch carrier Broad Brush through that one's third dam, Kentucky Oaks winner Hidden Talent, a daughter of Dark Star (see Table 5).

Finally, the only known representative of the Domino male line to be sent to Australia for stud duty was Flying Missel. Owned and bred by America's largest ranch, King Ranch, located in southern Texas, Flying Missel (1945) was a three-quarter brother to U.S. Hall of

Famer Stymie, both by the Equipoise stallion Equestrian (see Table 2).

A high class racehorse in his own right, Flying Missel won nine of 46 starts with earnings of \$111,077. His best efforts included a victory in the ten furlong Sussex Handicap at Delaware Park, equalling the track record. He was second in the two and a half mile Pimlico Cup when the winner set a new world record for the distance. He was also runner-up to Kentucky Derby winner Ponder in Belmont Park's two mile Jockey Club Gold Cup.

Flying Missel was imported in 1954 by Frank W. Thompson to his legendary Widden Stud in the Upper Hunter Valley. There he sired four stakes winners highlighted by the geldings, Man of Iron, winner of the 1958 AJC and QTC Sire's Produce Stakes (making him one of only six juveniles to capture the prestigious double), and Top Missel, winner of back-to-back editions of the Gosford Gold Cup (1963-64).

Flying Missel's most important producing daughters included: Grande Brio, grand dam of Lloyd's Gold, winner of the 1979 WATC Australian Derby (G1).

Snow Lily, dam of Snowing, winner of the 1979 VATC Sandown Guineas (G2) and AJC Flight Stakes (G2); fourth dam of Crystal Lily, winner of the 2010 Golden Slipper (G1) and 2009-10 juvenile champion; fifth dam of Crystal Dreamer, winner of the 2019 MRC Resimax Stakes (G3).

Veil Missel, grand dam of Livstona Lane, winner of the 1990 Gosford Gold Cup (G3).

Lizabeth, fifth dam of Invincible Gem, a three-time Australian group winner between 2017 and 2019.

The sheer brilliance of Domino and his descendants, whether in tail-male line or otherwise, has become forever integrated into the DNA of the modern thoroughbred. Built on a blueprint designed for racing on American dirt surfaces, there remains valuable conduits with the turf-based blood of Australasia and Europe. **BB**

FLYING MISSEL (spelled incorrectly) with FRANK W. THOMPSON appearing in the June 29, 1954 issue of the Sydney Morning Herald

Flying Missile Reaches Sydney

American joint-holder of a world record, Flying Missile, arrived in Sydney yesterday.



Flying Missile ran the one and a quarter mile at Maryland (United States) in 2m 2s, equalling the record set by Delaware.

He is pictured above with Mr. F. W. Thompson, master of Widden Stud, Kerrabee, who imported him to Australia.

Now an eight-year-old,

Flying Missile retired from racing two years ago. He came here via England, where he spent a quarantine period of six months with the British Bloodstock Association.

Mr. Thompson said last night that he intends to mate Flying Missile with top-class bloodstock, including Warble, Royal Court, and more by Nasrullah and Blue Peter.