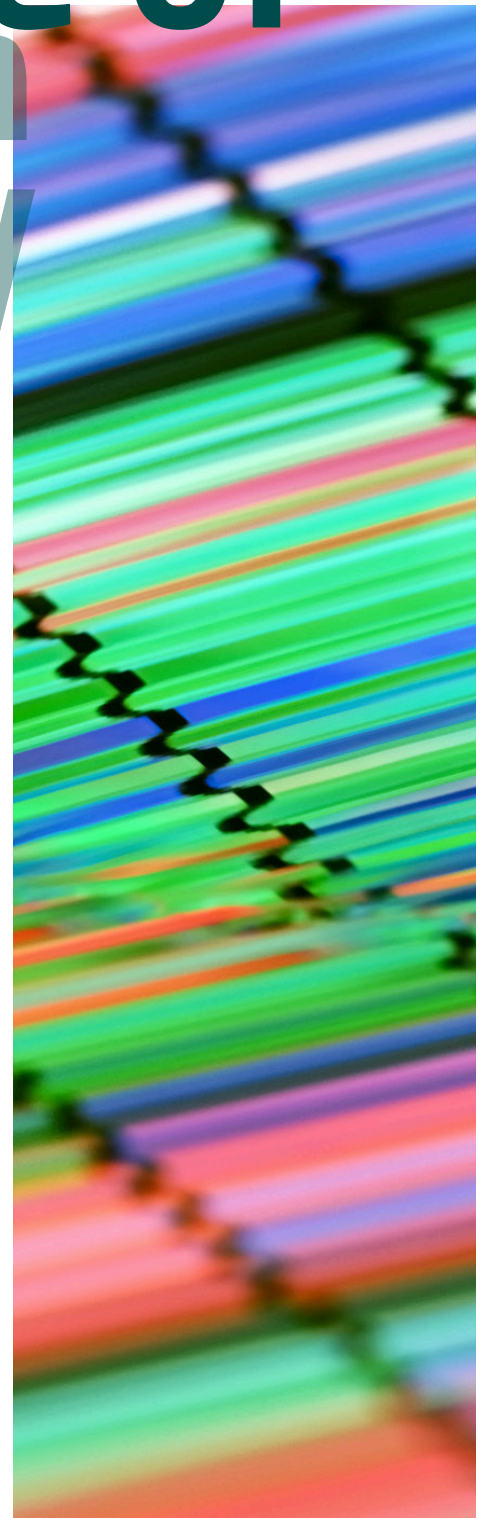


by Rommy Faversham

A classic case of mistaken identity

Close to a decade ago, forensic science solved one of racing's greatest mysteries, leaving a lot for avid pedigree buffs to reconsider.



THE 1880 Epsom Derby, generally considered by those in attendance as one of the most exciting races of the nineteenth century, would, nevertheless, become an isolated but significant stumbling block within many of the subsequent record books of racing and breeding.

This was confirmed in 2012 by M.A. Bower and her team at Cambridge University when they comprehensively analyzed part of the skeleton of this mercurial Derby winner who just so happened to go on to become one of the great breed shaping stallions. It was always assumed the skull, preserved at the Natural History Museum of London, belonged to Bend Or, son

of Doncaster and the Thormanby mare Rouge Rose, a member of Bruce Lowe's Family Number One. Instead, the mitochondrial (D-loop) DNA extracted from the subject's mandible proved characteristic of Bruce Lowe's Family Number Two, which indicated the remains were, in fact, those of Bend Or's stablemate Tadcaster, another chestnut three-year old son of Doncaster but out of the Newminster mare Clemence.

Tadcaster and Bend Or were both bred at Eaton Stud by the first Duke of Westminster, at the time, the richest man in all of England. What the Cambridge studies confirmed was that the colts had indeed been erroneously switched sometime after they were sent out as yearlings, somewhere

between Eaton and the training grounds at Russley. When the owners of the Derby runner-up Robert The Devil learned of this unintentional but disqualifying substitution, from none other than a recently sacked Eaton groom, a steward's inquiry was convened.

Both sides' witnesses took turns contradicting their own previous statements which only magnified the importance of Eaton's stud records which were embarrassingly poor or non-existent. But in the end, given the times and the players involved, the wrong decision - to uphold the original result - was the only one that could have been made. The winner by a head was Bend Or, by Doncaster out of Rouge Rose. Despite the stewards' decision, it is evident from the literature there was a fair sized collection of skilled observers who would continue to believe otherwise.

On paper, Clemence and Rouge Rose both appeared more than capable of producing a Derby winner. A multiple stakes winner, Clemence was bred by H.M Queen Victoria. She was a half sister to dual classic winning filly Imperieuse and three other major stakes winners. The unraced Rouge Rose was a half sister to the dam of 1866 Triple Crown winner Lord Lyon as well as dual classic winning filly Achievement.

With the controversy still raging decades later, The Bloodstock Breeders' Review of 1914 went so far as to remark, "many good judges say that from the appearance of the subsequent progeny of Rouge Rose and of Clemence, combined with the remembrance of the looks of the two horses, Bend Or and Tadcaster, they firmly believe the colts were changed." Perhaps the most compelling detail to come up in the long aftermath involved one of the three stewards who confessed that "in light of additional facts which had come to his knowledge, he and the other stewards probably arrived at a wrong decision."

As for the 'other' colt now known to have been the real Bend Or, he was unraced at three and gelded at four after which he became a nondescript hurdler.

A recent article in Bluebloods on this very topic asserted that any analysis of mDNA believed to have been from the individual known as Bend Or is actually impossible since his remains were ignominiously dispatched to a glue factory. This can be debunked by looking up the January 21 and 22, 1903 issues of many international newspapers including the Daily Express, the Daily Telegraph as well as Australia's paper of record, The Argus who all reported on the receipt of Bend Or's (Tadcaster's) head by the Natural History Museum, less than two weeks after the great horse's death.

If we are now to implement this fascinating resolve, all of the descendants of Bend Or, through which the Darley Arabian male line is transmitted to the overwhelming majority of present day thoroughbreds, must now be assigned to Tadcaster with the entire pedigree of his dam Clemence replacing that of Rouge Rose.

The volume of pedigrees requiring some level of correction becomes rather consequential, particularly since Tadcaster (thought to be Bend Or) was not only a superior sire-of-sires but a highly influential broodmare sire-of-sires as well.

Tadcaster, Chestnut colt, 1877 (raced as Bend Or)

DONCASTER Ch 1870	Stockwell	The Baron	Birdcatcher	Sir Hercules	2t
			Echidna	Guiccoili	11d
		Pocahontas	Glencoe	Economist	36
			Marpessa	Miss Pratt	24
				Sultan	8
	Marigold	Teddington	Trampoline		1t
			Muley		6a
			Clare		3m
		Ratan Mare	Orlando	Touchstone	14a
			Miss Twickenham	Vulture	13a
				Rockingham	1d
CLEMENCE Ch 1865	Newminster	Touchstone	Ratan	Electress	2t
			Buzzard		8k
			Picton mare		9b
		Beeswing	Melbourne Mare		1a
				Lisbeth	5e
	Eulogy	Euclid	Camel	2 Whalebone	1o
			Master Henry	Selim mare	24
		Martha Lynn	Banter	Boadicea	3b
					14
		Euclid	Doctor Syntax	Paynator	18
			Ardrossan mare	Beningbrough mare	37
		Leda		Ardrossan	2a
				Lady Eliza	8

Bend Or, Chestnut colt, 1877 (raced as Tadcaster)

DONCASTER Ch 1870	Stockwell	The Baron	Birdcatcher	Sir Hercules	2t
			Echidna	Guiccoili	11d
		Pocahontas	Glencoe	Economist	36
			Marpessa	Miss Pratt	24
				Sultan	8
	Marigold	Teddington	Trampoline		1t
			Muley		6a
			Clare		3m
		Ratan Mare	Orlando	Touchstone	14a
			Miss Twickenham	Vulture	13a
				Rockingham	1d
ROUGE ROSE Ch 1865	Thormanby	Windhound	Electress		2t
			Buzzard		8k
			Picton mare		9b
		Alice Hawthorn	Melbourne Mare		1a
				Lisbeth	5e
	Ellen Horne	Redshank	2 Castrel		2n
			Idalia		17a
		Delhi	Phryne	Touchstone	14a
			Muley Moloch	Decoy	3h
			Rebecca	Muley	6a

Ormonde was unbeaten in sixteen starts, including the 1886 English Triple Crown, he has been widely thought to be the finest racehorse of the nineteenth century, and perhaps of all time.

Ormonde, Bay colt, 1883 *Official Unchanged*

BEND OR Ch 1877	Doncaster	Stockwell	The Baron	Birdcatcher	11d
			Pocahontas	Echidna	24
		Marigold	Teddington	Glencoe	1t
			Ratan Mare	Marpessa	3m
				Orlando	13a
	Rouge Rose	Thormanby	Miss Twickenham	2t	
			Ratan	9b	
		Windhound	Melbourne Mare	5e	
			Pantalo	17a	
		Alice Hawthorn	Phryne	3h	
LILY AGNES B 1871	Macaroni	Sweetmeat	Muley Moloch	9c	
			Rebecca	4b	
		Jocose	Sandbeck	8a	
			Johanna	15	
			Plenipotentiary	6b	
	Polly Agnes	The Cure	Pawn Junior	1f	
			Gladiator	Partisan	1e
		The Cure	Pauline	22	
			Voltaire	12a	
		Miss Agnes	Belinda	21a	
			Castrel	2n	
		Birdcatcher	Idalia	17a	
			Master Henry	3b	
		Agnes	Boadicea	14	
			Brutandorf	11g	
		Miss Agnes	Primette	21	
			Morsel	5a	
		Birdcatcher	Linda	6a	
			Sir Hercules	2t	
		Agnes	Guiccoilli	11d	
			Clarion	6b	
		Miss Agnes	Annette	16	

Tadcaster as a stallion - the Tadcaster / Macaroni nick

An undefeated juvenile champion, Tadcaster passed on his early brilliance to many of his best offspring. By replacing Rouge Rose with Clemence, Tadcaster carried a greater presence of the foundation stallion Touchstone, from 5X5 to 5X3.

The Duke of Westminster purposely provided his “confirmed” Derby winner with an exaggerated proportion of broodmares by Touchstone’s close relative Macaroni, an earlier Derby champion. This prodigious cross made up roughly twenty percent of Tadcaster’s total offspring and yet accounted for almost all of his best runners. As in the case of Bend Or, the “Tadcaster / Macaroni nick” featured inbreeding to the pair’s common matriarch Banter, but now with the revision in pedigree there are two strains appearing within five generations, as such creating the Rasmussen Factor with Banter 5X4. Table 1 is a list of Tadcaster’s top runners whose dams were daughters of Macaroni.

Table 1

TADCASTER’S BEST RUNNERS OUT OF A MACARONI MARE

KENDAL	1883	July Stakes, etc.; influential sire
ORMONDE	1883	English Triple Crown, etc.; torch carrier of the Teddy male line
OSSORY	1885	St. James Palace S., Prince of Wales S.
MARTAGON	1887	Goodwood Cup, etc.; influential sire
ORVIETO	1888	Sussex S., Doncaster S., etc.; sire
BONA VISTA	1889	2.000 Guineas, etc.; torch carrier of the dominant Phalaris male line
LAVENO	1892	Champion Stakes, etc.; influential sire

The greatest of these was Ormonde. Unbeaten in sixteen starts, including the 1886 English Triple Crown, he has been widely thought to be the finest racehorse of the nineteenth century, and perhaps of all time. His five generation pedigrees with both Bend Or and Tadcaster as his sire are compared.

Ormonde, Bay colt, 1883 *Corrected by mDNA study*

TADCASTER Ch 1877	Doncaster	Stockwell	The Baron	Birdcatcher	11d		
			Echidna	24			
		Marigold	Pocahontas	Glencoe	1t		
			Teddington	Marpessa	3m		
			Orlando	13a			
	Clemence	Newminster	Miss Twickenham	2t			
			Ratan	9b			
			Melbourne Mare	5e			
		Eulogy	1 Touchstone	Camel	24		
			Banter	14a			
Beeswing			Doctor Syntax	37			
Ardrossan mare			8				
LILY AGNES B 1871	Macaroni	Sweetmeat	Euclid	Emilius	28		
			Maria	7a			
		1 Jocose	Martha Lynn	Mulatto	5a		
			Leda	2f			
			Polly Agnes	The Cure	Gladiator	Partisan	1e
					Pauline	22	
	Miss Agnes	Lollypop		Voltaire	12a		
		Belinda		21a			
		Sweetmeat		Pantalo	Castrel	2n	
				Idalia	17a		
	LILY AGNES B 1871	Polly Agnes	The Cure	Banter	Master Henry	3b	
				Boadicea	14		
			Miss Agnes	Physician	Brutandorf	11g	
				Primette	21		
			Sweetmeat	Morsel	Mulatto	5a	
				Linda	6a		
			Miss Agnes	Birdcatcher	Sir Hercules	2t	
				Guiccoili	11d		
			Miss Agnes	Agnes	Clarion	6b	
				Annette	16		

Orme, Bay colt, 1889 Corrected by mtDNA study

ORMONDE B 1883	Tadcaster	Doncaster	1 Stockwell	The Baron	24
			Marigold	Pocahontas	3n
		Clemence	Newminster	Teddington	2t
			1 Eulogy	Ratan Mare	5e
	Lily Agnes	Macaroni	Sweetmeat	Touchstone	14
			Jocose	Beeswing	8
		Polly Agnes	The Cure	Euclid	7a
			Miss Agnes	Martha Lynn	2h
				Gladiator	22
				Lollypop	21a
ANGELICA B 1879	Galopin	Vedette	1 Voltigeur	Voltaire	12a
			Mrs Ridgway	Martha Lynn	2h
		Flying Duchess	The Flying Dutchman	Birdcatcher	11d
			Merope	Nan Darrell	19b
			Harkaway	Bay Middleton	1s
			1 King Tom	Barbelle	3i
	St Angela	Adeline	Lon	Voltaire	12a
			Little Fairy	Juniper mare	3i
				Economist	36
				Fanny Dawson	2
		1 King Tom		Glencoe	1t
				Marpessa	3m
				Cain	8
				Margaret	4d
		Adeline		Hornsea	15d
				Lacerta	11c

Tadcaster's tail-male line

One of the pleasures of thoroughbred pedigree research is the potential of an encounter with the unexpected, the serendipitous discovery of something even more fascinating than the original subject of inquiry.

Such is the case with the acknowledgement that Tadcaster was, in fact, a member of one of the great sire producing families in thoroughbred history; a clan that incorporates a remarkable cluster of influential stallions, all of whom descend back to Clemence's grandam Martha Lynn, taproot mare of the #2-h branch of Bruce Lowe's Family Number Two (see Figure 1). All of Martha Lynn's descendants share a common sequence of mitochondrial DNA, as identified by the Bower group, with the designation L4a.

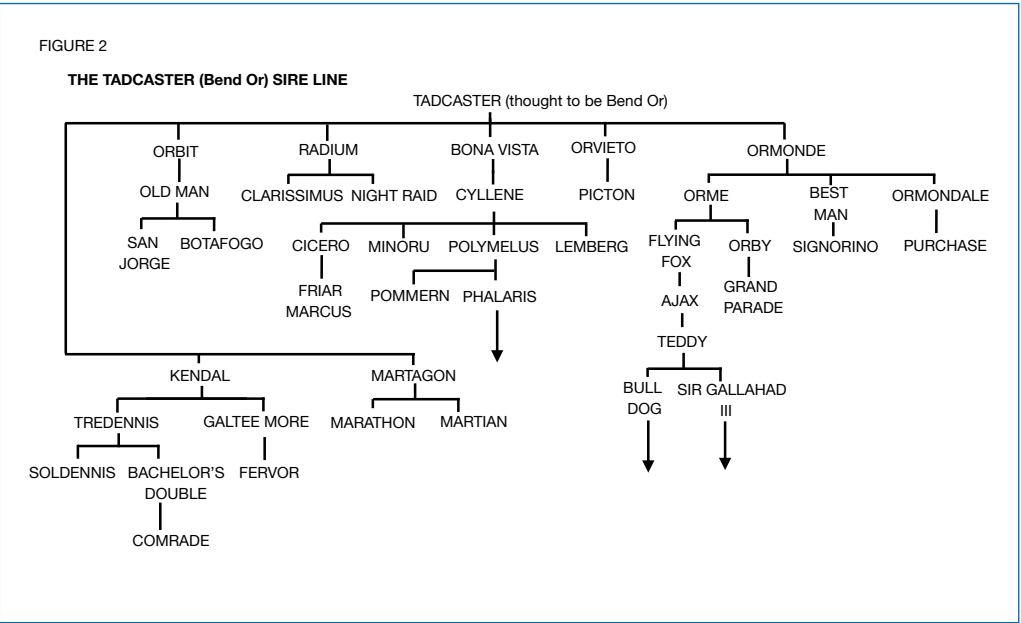
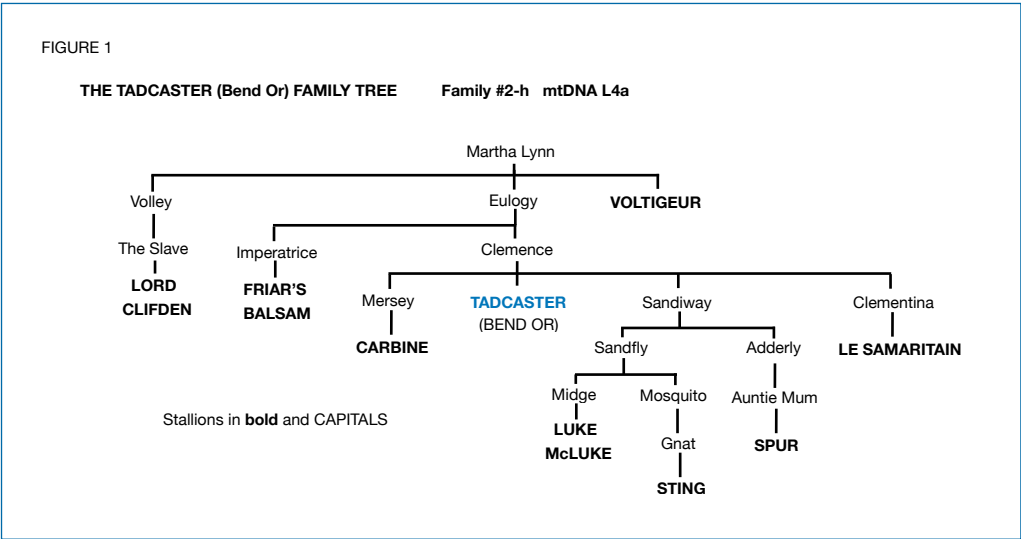
What becomes evident by correcting all of the salient pedigrees is that the Tadcaster sire line was, to a remarkable degree, advanced by the accumulation of additional strains from his own family. The clan has obviously become considerably greater with his inclusion. These positive effects can be demonstrated by re-examining the pedigrees of top offspring along the expanding Tadcaster sire line. For good measure, these findings serve as a whole new source of support for the benefits of female family inbreeding.

As demonstrated in Figure 1, Tadcaster's key complementary sires include Voltigeur (progenitor of Galopin and St. Simon), Lord Clifden (sire of Hampton), Carbine (sire of Spearmint) and Le Samaritain (progenitor of The Tetrarch).

Tadcaster's sire line is illustrated in Figure 2. The phenomenal Ormonde's best son was Orme, a champion both at the track and at stud. His corrected pedigree shows his dam to be an influential daughter of Galopin, hence a 5X5 pattern of inbreeding to Martha Lynn.

Orme's best son, 1899 English Triple Crown winner Flying Fox was also out of a Galopin mare, providing a third strain of Martha Lynn. His grandson, the foundation sire Teddy carried a total of distant nine strains of Martha Lynn through three different sires.

Teddy's two best sire sons, the full brothers Sir Galahad III and Bull Dog were imported to the U.S. where they both became champion sires and broodmare sires throughout the 1930s, '40s and '50s. Out of the blue hen Spearmint mare Plucky Liege, their corrected pedigrees demonstrate inbreeding to Clemence 5X5.



Teddy's two best sire sons, the full brothers **Sir Galahad III** and **Bull Dog** were imported to the U.S. where they both became champion sires and broodmare sires throughout the 1930s, '40s and '50s. Out of the blue hen Spearmint mare Plucky Liege, their corrected pedigrees demonstrate inbreeding to Clemence 5X5.

Sir Gallahad, Bay colt, 1920 : Bull Dog, Brown colt, 1927 Corrected

TEDDY B 1913	Ajax	Flying Fox	Orme	Ormonde	16h
			Vampire	2 Angelica	11c
		Amie		Galopin	3i
				Irony	7d
				Saumur	5a
	Rondeau	Bay Ronald	Clamart	Princess Catherine	3n
			Alice	Wellingtonia	3n
		Doremi		Asta	2i
			Hampton	Lord Clifden	2h
			Black Duchess	Lady Langden	10a
PLUCKY LIEGE B 1912	Spearmint	Carbine		Galliard	13
				Black Corrie	3
		Maid of the Mint	Doncaster	Doncaster	5e
				Clemence	2h
				Macaroni	14a
	Concertina	2 St Simon	May Queen		2n
				Toxophilite	3h
		Comic Song		West Australian mare	3d
				Knowsley	3d
				Clemence	2h
		Frivolity	Minting	Lord Lyon	1j
				Mint Sauce	1r
			Warble	Skylark	15b
				Coturnix	1c
PLUCKY LIEGE B 1912	Spearmint	Carbine		Vedette	19b
				Flying Duchess	3i
		Maid of the Mint		King Tom	3n
				Adeline	11c
				Lord Clifden	2h
	Concertina	2 St Simon		Laura	10
				Macaroni	14a
		Comic Song		Miss Agnes	16a

It would be a very long article indeed if I were to produce all of the different examples of this pattern along this entire sire line. Interested readers are encouraged to engage in such a study, perhaps with the aid of online pedigree programs. Another very good source to examine these affinities between Tadcaster and the other stallions from the Martha Lynn family is Great Thoroughbred Sires of the World (GTSOTW), a magnificent text published by The Australian Bloodstock Review (forerunner to Bluebloods).

Carbine and Le Samaritain's tail-male line

Reviews of corrected pedigrees confirm the notion that the sire lines of Carbine and Le Samaritain were reciprocally enhanced with the blood of Tadcaster and the other Martha Lynn-line sires. A particularly large proportion of top representatives from the Carbine sire line (Figure 3) followed this trend for three or four generations.

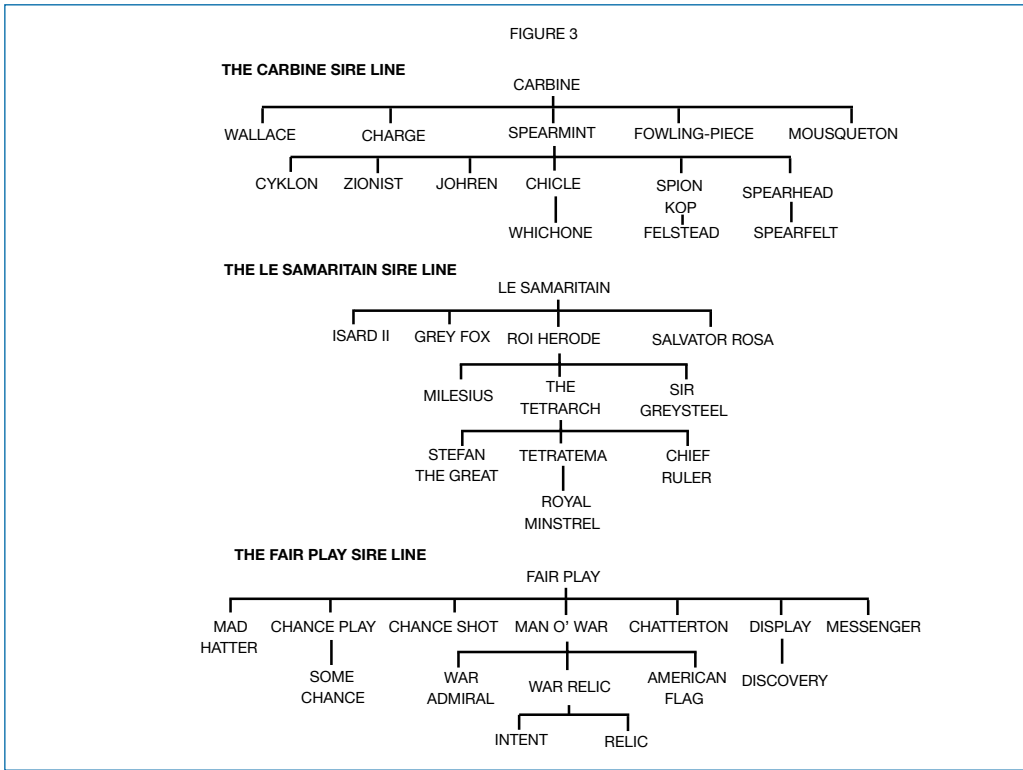
Le Samaritain's dam Clementina was a full sister to Tadcaster. The former's most important son at stud was Roi Herode whose dam was inbred 4X3 to Voltigeur's son Vedette. By far, the most important member of this entire sire line is Roi Herode's breed shaping son The Tetrarch (Figure 3), ranked by Timeform as the best juvenile of the twentieth century and a champion sire in England and Ireland as well. His pedigree as shown is highlighted by a 3X3 cross of full siblings, Clementina and Tadcaster.

Reviewing the corrected pedigrees of the top individuals appearing along the Le Samaritain sire line attests to the fact that this stirp flourished when the blood of other stallions from the #2-h family were sequentially introduced.

Tadcaster as a broodmare sire-of-sires

In addition to his dominant role as a sire-of-sires, Tadcaster had several daughters who produced a significantly influential son at stud. These male lines would go on to develop their own valuable affinities with complementary strains of Tadcaster's remarkable family. Three, in particular, were the American patriarchs Fair Play, Friar Rock and Ogdens.

By far, the most important of these was the Fair Play line, the prevailing source of stamina during the first half of the twentieth century. The most influential of these scions of Fair Play was his best son, Man o' War who demonstrated what can now be seen as a well documented propensity for broodmares carrying #2-h strains particularly Roi Herode (Le Samaritain) and Spearmint (Carbine). Man o' War's first champion son and Belmont Stakes winner American Flag is a good



American Flag, Chestnut colt, 1922 Corrected

MAN O' WAR Ch 1917	Fair Play	Hastings	Spendthrift	Australian	11
			Cinderella	Aerolite	A3
		Fairy Gold	2 Tadcaster	Tomahawk	3j
			Dame Masham	Manna	21a
	Mahubah	Rock Sand		Doncaster	5e
				Clemence	2h
		Merry Token		Galliard	13
				Pauline	9e
LADY COMFEY B or Br 1913	Roi Herode	Le Samaritain	Le Sancy	Springfield	12c
			2 Clementina	Sanda	2g
		Roxelane	War Dance	St Simon	11c
			Rose of York	St Marguerite	4n
	Snoot	Perigord		Hampton	10a
				Doll Tearsheet	22c
		N.R.A.	Merry Hampton	Macgregor	4c
			Mizpah	Underhand Mare	4c
	Roi Herode	Le Samaritain	Le Sancy	Atlantic	3b
			2 Clementina	Gem of Gems	4h
		Roxelane	War Dance	Doncaster	5e
			Rose of York	Clemence	2h

The Tetrarch, Grey colt, 1911 Corrected

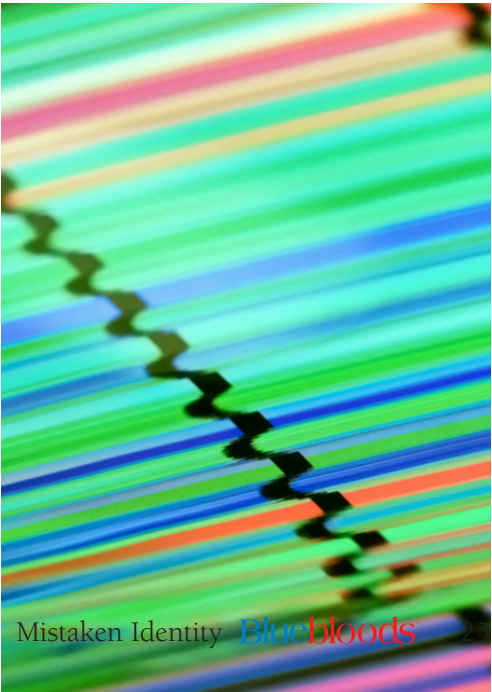
ROI HERODE Gr 1904	Le Samaritain	Le Sancy	Atlantic	Thormanby	4f
			Gem of Gems	Hurricane	3b
		2 Clementina		Strathconan	11g
				Poinsettia	4h
	Roxelane	War Dance		Stockwell	3n
				Marigold	5e
		Rose of York		Newminster	8
				Eulogy	2h
VAHREN Ch 1897	Bona Vista	2 Tadcaster		Galliard	3i
				Mavis	13
		Vista		Uncas	1o
				Piracy	1e
	Castania	Hagioscope		Vedette	19b
				Doralice	1c
		Rose Garden		Thormanby	4f
				Ellen Horne	1j
	Bona Vista	2 Tadcaster		Stockwell	3n
				Marigold	5e
		Vista		Newminster	8
				Eulogy	2h

Reviewing the corrected pedigrees of the top individuals appearing along the Le Samaritain sire line attests to the fact that this stirp flourished when the blood of other stallions from the #2-h family were sequentially introduced.

example of this. His pedigree features a 4X4 cross of the full siblings Tadcaster and Clementina. Another very important early twentieth century American sire was Broomstick whose dam Elf was by Galliard, a son of Galopin, out of a Tadcaster mare, and therefore inbred 5X5 to Martha Lynn. It is, therefore, consistent for Broomstick to have been another preeminent stallion whose blood crossed exceptionally well with the gamut of other sires tracing back to Martha Lynn.

Ahead of the curve

A final interesting issue to consider is whether there were any well known horsemen whose key bloodstock decisions suggested they may have regarded Bend Or (Tadcaster) as actually descending from the ultra-strong sire family #2-h. One of the top candidates would appear to be Harry Payne Whitney, arguably America's premier breeder during the first third of the twentieth century. As for mindset, female family inbreeding to Mannie Gray, dam of the great Domino, had always been a staple throughout his long dynasty. The trend may have been initiated in 1908 when Whitney purchased Broomstick, a foal of Elf who became a foundation stallion for his master, garnering three consecutive sire titles between 1913 and 1915 and getting a lifetime 25% stakes winners. Whitney also bred and then imported a couple of colts by Spearmint, Chicle (Fr), a future champion sire and Belmont Stakes winner Johren (GB) whose sixth dam was Clemence. Later on, Whitney added Mad Hatter, by Fair Play, to his stallion ranks. Broomstick's best son and torch carrier Whisk Broom II was out of a Voltigeur-line broodmare. In turn, many of Whisk Broom's best offspring were out of Voter-line mares. Voter was by Friar's Balsam, as noted in Figure 1, another descendant of the #2-h family. Meanwhile, Chicle and Johren did, by far, their best at stud when sent Broomstick-line mares. Mad Hatter's top offspring had mares typically carrying Broomstick and Chicle blood. His only champion, the 1930 three-year old filly Snowflake carried a strain of Le Samaritain. A more comprehensive account of the Whitney stallions would further support these trends. ➡



Robert the Devil, Bay colt, 1877

BERTRAM B 1869	The Duke	Stockwell	The Baron	2 Birdcatcher	11d
			Pocahontas	Echidna	24
		Bay Celia	Orlando	Glencoe	1t
			Hersey	Marpessa	3m
				Touchstone	14a
	Constance	2 Faugh-a-Ballagh	Sir Hercules	Vulture	13a
			Guiccoili	Glaucus	3h
		Milkmaid	Whalebone	Hester	12c
			Peri		1o
			Bob Booty		2t
CAST OFF Br 1866	Promised Land	Jericho	Jerry	Flight	11d
			Turquoise	Partisan	1e
		Glee	Touchstone	Nanine	3h
			Banter	Banker	42
			Reveller	Dame Durdan	18
	Wanona	Womersley	Orville mare I	Beningbrough Mare	18
			Harmony		18
		Hampton mare (II)	2 Birdcatcher	Smolensko	18
			Cinizzelli	Louisa	15
			Hampton	Selim	2n

After almost thirteen equine generations, the relatively recent solving of the Tadcaster/Bend Or mystery may be somewhat academic. Nevertheless, it cannot be ignored. Noted English bloodstock writer Tony Morris dug in his heels and opined, “even if he was not the horse as registered in the General Stud Book, the one who spent his highly distinguished racing and stud careers as Bend Or, sire of the greatest racehorse of the 19th century, will never be known by any other name.” To that I would ask, would you rather be right or would you rather be happy?

It just seems a bit silly in continuing to refer to a pedigree, whether contemporary or not, that contains information we now know to be incorrect.

And while we’re at it, the rightful champion of the 1880 Epsom Derby with its winner’s purse of £6,375 was neither Tadcaster nor Bend Or. It was by disqualification the nemesis Robert The Devil, by Bertram, who faced Bend Or (Tadcaster) a total of four other times, getting the better of him in three including the St. Leger Stakes.



Robert the Devil



Bend Or, now known as **Tadcaster** according to the DNA study.

A classic case of mistaken identity

