



THE DERBY DAY

DERBY STAKES of 50 sovs. Each, h. ft., for 3-year-olds: colts, 8 st. 7 lb.; fillies, 8 st. 3 lb. The second to receive 100 sovs. out of the stakes. Last mile and a half 224 subs.

Mr. Merry's Thormanby, by Melbourne or Windhoind – Alice Hawthorn, 8 st. 7 lb. (Costance) ...	1
Mr. Nichol's The Wizard, by West Australian, dam by the Cure – Elphin 8 st. 7 lb. (A. French) ...	2
Captain Christie's Horror, by Wild Dayrell – Sally, 8 st. 7 lb. (Challoner)	3
Count F. De Lagrange's Dangu, by Fitz Gladiator, 8 st. 7 lb. Carried 8 st. 8 lb. (J. Quinton) ...	4

Lord Palmerston's Mainstone, Mr. I' Anson's Carmond, Mr. Tute's The Drone. Mr. Wyatt's Nutbourne, Mr. Harland's Sutton, Lord Stamford's Bentinck, Lord Strathmore's Leprochain, Mr. T. Dawson's Sir William, Baron Rothchild's Rester, Lord Derby's Cape Flyaway, Mr. Howard's The Rap, Mr. Gibb's Wallace. Mr. Heslop's The Tiger, Mr. Sutton's Man at Arms, Lord Portsmouth's Buccaneer, Lord Glasgow's Tom Bowline, Lord Zetland's Lanchester, Sir C. Monek's Vesta, Mr R. Ten Broock's Umpire, Mr. Merry's Brother to Rainbow, Sir J. Hawley's Loiterer, Sir J. Hawley's Largesse, Mr. Crawford's Winton, Mr. Copperthwaite's The Rising Sun, Mr. Gratwicke's Ebony and Mr. Jacques's High Treason also ran.

Betting – 5 to 2 agst The Wizard (off), 5 to 1 agst Thormanley (t freely), 5 to 1 agst Umpire (off), 7 to 1 agst Nutbourne (t), 100 to 6 agst Buccaneer (t), 20 to 1 agst Horror, 25 to 1 agst High Treason, 30 to 1 agst The Drone, 33 to 1 agst Restes, 40 to 1 agst Cramond, 40 to 1 agst Mainstone, 50 to 1 agst Wallace, 50 to 1 agst Lanchester, 66 to 1 agst Sutton.

The Race

At exactly 25 minutes prior to the time of starting the numbers of the 30 competitors were displayed on the telegraph board. The horses assembled with the utmost punctuality, and walked in a body towards the starter. Just before reaching him, however, Leprochain, Brother to Rainbow, Tiger, Umpire, the Rap, and

two or three others, broke away, and the rank had to be reformed. This proceeding was soon accomplished, and the ringing of the bell announced the start even before a large majority of the spectators were prepared for it, and the clamour in the Grand Stand enclosure suddenly ceased. The roar of excitement which was sent up as soon as the horses quitted the post became hushed in an instant, and while every tongue was silent every eye was strained to discover the positions of the favorites. Bentinck was the first to show prominently in the race, and he took a clear lead as the horses ascended the hill; following directly in his track were Man at Arms, Nutbourne, Rising Sun, and Restes. In the extreme rear were Sutton, Largesse, and Lotterer. Bentinck increased his lead half a dozen lengths on going up the hill, but before reaching the mile -post he disappeared from the front, and Restes, who had been heading the ruck, took up the running with Nutbourne, Horror, Rising Sun, Man at Arms, Buccaneer, Brother to Rainbow, Thormanby, The Wizard, Dangu, and Umpire taking their places at the head of the ruck. On coming round Tattenham Corner the front lot were in close company, Nutbourne next the rails having perhaps a slight lead, with Restes, The Wizard, Umpire, Buccaneer, Thormanby, Brother to Rainbow, and Horror, well up in his stride. On crossing the road Nutbourne broke down and was pulled up, and soon after Restes was beaten, The Wizard then came to the front, and running in the middle of the course took a clear lead, followed by Thormanby, Dangu, and Horror. At the distance Thormanby passed The Wizard without an effort, and Horror took third place half-way up. From the moment that Thormanby's colours were seen in advance, however, the issue of the race was not in doubt. He ran home an easy winner, by a length and a half, 4 lengths separated the second from the third, and four lengths the third from the fourth. Thormanby was twice nearly knocked on his head, and Wallace had a narrow escape of falling the instant the flag was dropped. The value of the stakes, deducting the money to be paid to the second horse, the judge, and towards expenses, is 6050L.

Bell's Weekly Messenger, 26 May 1860

BISHOPSTONE

THORMANBY AND THE DERBY. - On Thursday afternoon last, the labouring men and lads of the parish of Bishopstone to the number of 220 were bountifully regaled with an unlimited supply of old English fare – beef and plum pudding, and ale and tobacco, at the expense of Mr. Merry the owner of the horse Thormanby, the winner of the Derby stakes at Epsom, on the 24th ultimo. Since the Derby day – a day so peculiarly interesting to Mr. Merry both on account of his being the proprietor of the horse that carried off the “blue ribbon” of the turf, and also on account of the immense sum (upwards of one hundred thousand pounds it is said) it brought to his exchequer, that gentleman appears to have expected himself to the utmost to make those around, or is anyway connected with him, participators in his good fortune.

To the trainer and all those who were in any way employed in looking after the horse, to the farmers on whose lands the horse was trained, to the inhabitants of the village near which these lands were situate, he has shewn a princely liberality – his presents, we are told, have varied from a thousand pounds to Mr. Dawson down to half-a-crown to the head of each family who would receive it in whole villages.

Shortly after the race, Mr. Merry expressed a wish that the inhabitants of Bishopstone, Ashbury and the two Hintons, should be invited to a dinner to be provided at his expense, his training stables at Russley and also the downs on which Thormanby took his airings being situate in these parishes/ At Ashbury and the two Hintons it was found impracticable to carry out Mr. Merry's wish, in consequence of there being no room or place in which so large a number of persons as would be likely to be present could be accommodated, and Mr. C. E. Owen was consequently deputed by Mr. Merry to offer to each poor family in these villages the sum of half-a-crown, which that gentleman did on Wednesday and Thursday last. At Bishopstone, a large barn adjoining the village public house having been secured and tastefully decorated with evergreen, Mr. Merry's wish to give the poor a dinner was carried out. Unfortunately, the weather proved exceedingly unfavourable, the rain falling during the greater portion of the day, and from three o'clock, the hour appointed for the dinner until late in the evening without intermission. Notwithstanding this great drawback, two hundred and twenty of the labouring poor of the village availed themselves of Mr. Merry's kind offer partook of his hospitality. Mr. W. Dore, Mr. C. E. Owen, Mr. Hedges and other gentlemen of the neighbourhood were present and assisted in waiting upon the company.

The cloth being removed, and it having been intimated that, although Mr. Merry had given special instructions that there should be no limit to the supply of ale and tobacco, he was particularly anxious that there should be no excess, the toast "Health and success to Mr. Merry," was proposed and enthusiastically responded to. The health of Mr. Dawson, of Mr. Dore and several other gentlemen were also drunk.

In addition to the dinner, Mr. Merry had placed at the disposal of Mr. Owen, a very handsome sum to be distributed in prizes to competitors in various games and sports, and repeated efforts were made to carry out the donor's wishes in this respect, but with exception of a few races by men and boys, the weather was of so unfavourable a character that nothing of the kind could take place. It is but justice to the labourers of Bishopstone to state, that they were moderate in their consumption of "beer", and that throughout the afternoon and evening they conducted themselves in an orderly and respectable manner, and that after singing the National Anthem they departed to their homes shortly after nine o'clock. The entertainment on the Thursday being confined exclusively to men and lads, on the following day Friday, the women and children were invited to attend at the same place and partake of tea and plum cake, and 450 of the inhabitants responded to the invitation. The weather being more favourable than on the previous day, various amusements were introduced after tea, and prizes distributed to competitors in athletic games and sports. In the evening the company returned to the barn, when each adult was supplied with one pint of beer, after which they again sang the National Anthem and then retired quietly and orderly to their homes.

The men and boys employed in and about the stables at Russley, were entertained at Mr. Merry's expense on Wednesday.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 4 June 1860