

Endurance By Right

by Kathleen Jones

Endurance By Right was a bay filly born in 1899 from the sire Inspector B. and the imported dam Early Morn, by Silvester. Her name implied the anticipated stamina and ruggedness one would expect from such a pedigree as this. The filly did not disappoint her breeders.



She was sired by Belmont and Travers winner INSPECTOR B., who was a son of leading sire ENQUIRER, who also sired Travers winner and Kentucky Derby runner-up Falsetto. Broodmare sire SILVESTER was a son of ST. ALBANS - winner of the English St. Leger (1 mile 6 1/2 furlongs) and the Great Metropolitan Stakes (2 1/4 miles). Second dam LATE NIGHTS was sired by CREMORNE who won the Grand Prix de Paris, a race of nearly two miles. Cremorne was also winner of the Epsom Derby and was runner-up in the English 2000 Guineas. Fifth dam, BROWN BESS was the grand-dam of MUSKET, winner of the Ascot Stakes and Alexandra Plate over *"extreme distances"*. Musket stood a few years in England before exporting to New Zealand where he sired the magnificent racers TRENTON and CARBINE. The latter was particularly well-known for his feats of carrying great weight while setting time records.

The famed handicapper and critic Walter S. Vosburgh wrote in his historical volume "Racing in America: 1866-1921" the following:

"If ability to concede great weight and a beating to contemporaries is the measure of pre-eminence, Endurance By Right is the greatest two-year-old filly that has appeared within the past fifty years."

Before she migrated to Saratoga in 1901, the filly had started at mid-western meetings in nine races, winning eight, including the Clipsetta Stakes at Latonia, and the Lassie Stakes, Petite Stakes, and Lakeside Stakes at Chicago. Her fame preceded her, and in her Saratoga debut the handicapper allotted her 122 lbs (in an era when 109 was the average impost for juveniles). She won by 2 lengths, conceding as much as 24 pounds to some of her rivals.

Honourable W.C. Whitney observed the filly that day, noting that she won breezing while the others were being hard-worked, and as it was customary for that gentleman to purchase every good runner he saw, he added Endurance By Right to his stable.

He began her next in the Flatbush Stakes, but elected to win the event with his favourite colt, Nasturtium, an entry-mate of the filly. Thus the filly was held back in the early stages and was not allowed to close as she wished in the latter stages. She ran third - a position which apparently angered her as she was never headed again in her career.

She reeled off seven consecutive victories following her Flatbush defeat.

For the Great Eastern Handicap, with 126 pounds, she won easily from a field of twelve. She won the Willow Stakes for fillies, and the Holly Handicap with 130 lbs, running away from a field of thirteen and conceding as much as 32 pounds to her rivals.

She then defeated the useful stakes colt Heno in the Third Special Stakes, and in the Champagne Stakes defeated Yankee (winner of the Futurity Stakes) and Caughnawaga (who would be the winner of the Saratoga Cup in forthcoming years.)

She was entered in the White Plains Handicap and assigned 132 pounds - the highest weight the handicapper ever allotted a two-year-old filly. But she was by then "under suspicion" for an injury. The suspicions held true and Endurance By Right was retired to the broodmare barn with a record of 16 wins in 18 starts.

Tragic as it was that this great runner did not train on at three, an even greater loss was that she died very young. However, in her short lifetime, she made an indelible mark on the American thoroughbred. She left behind a useful stakes filly (like mother - like daughter) named STAMINA.

Stamina, born in 1905, was sired by Nasturtium, one of the few runners to ever finish in front of Endurance By Right. The combination resulted in this stakes winning filly which counted among her victories the Matron Stakes at 2, and the Gazelle and Ladies' Handicap at 3. When she retired from the track, she was bred to Whisk Broom II and produced Wood Memorial winner BACKBONE. Backbone also won the Bay Shore H., Bowie Thanksgiving H., and the Agua Caliente Handicap.

Stamina also produced the filly THE BLONDE, dam of the mighty PORTER'S CAP who is best remembered for his victory in the 1941 Santa Anita Derby over Bull Reigh.

Another daughter of Stamina was Courage, dam of Plucky, dam of PLUCKY PLAY, a Chicago racing sensation of the early 1930's.

It is reassuring to find that the female line of Endurance By Right has survived to this day. Surprise winner of the 1991 Grade 1 Super Derby, FREE SPIRIT'S JOY traces directly back on the bottom line to this remarkable lady.

Endurance By Right was nominated for inclusion in the Hall of Fame at Saratoga as one of the great horses of yesteryear, however, she was not selected - the honour went to Granville. No complaints. Granville is as deserving as any. But I wonder how long Endurance By Right will have to wait before the nomination is made again. She staged some of her greatest victories at Saratoga Springs, New York. Perhaps some day, she will be enshrined there alongside other immortals of thoroughbred history.

Pedigree:

Endurance by Right, br.f. born 1899	Inspector B. 1883	Enquirer, 1867	Leamington
			Lida
	Early Morn, 1886	Colossa, 1869	Colossus
			Rurica
		Silvester, 1869	St. Albans
			Silverhair
		Late Nights, 1880	Cremorne
			Small Arms

(female family # 3)

Born: April, 1899
Died: 1905 (age 6)

Racing Record:

Year	Age	Starts	1st	2nd	3rd	unp.	earnings
1901	2	18	16	0	1	1	unknown

Stakes Record:

at 2:

- won - Clipsetta Stakes
- won - Lassie Stakes
- won - Petite Stakes Stakes
- won - Lakeside Stakes
- won - Great Eastern Stakes
- won - Willow Stakes

- won - Holly Handicap
- won - Third Special Stakes
- won - Champagne Stakes
- 3rd - Flatbush Stakes (Saratoga)