

Epsom was still shedding tears over the French victories when the Queen Mother and Princess Alexandra went down to the Paddock, on Oaks Day.

Among the rain-clouds, Sicarelle was the "silver lining" for Mme Volterra who won the Derby last year with Phil Drake.

Prince Aly Khan was also making a determined raid on the fillies' classic with Yasmin - named after his daughter.

But the best bet was either an umbrella or Lord Manton's Pitter Patter.

A well-behaved field at the start - at least, none of the fourteen fillies ~~was~~ left high and dry ^{EVEN} if that ~~was~~ ^{WERE} possible...

A mile-and-a-half to go with over ~~£15~~ ^{£15},000 in prize-money for the winner -

"Oh well ^{for} the French!"

Round the wide sweep to Tattenham Corner - Honeylight was leading. And British hopes were high - for she led from start to finish in the One Thousand Guineas. (2)

~~At~~ ^{AT} the famous corner - Honeylight was still leading - from a four-horse French challenge. Janiari was second - with Sicarelle tucked in on the rails.

Into the straight - and Sicarelle comes through to take the lead - ~~and~~ ^{WITH} ~~this is the final blow~~ - two ^{other} French horses ~~Janari~~ Janiari and Yasmin in pursuit.

And here's how Sicarelle galloped home from Janiari to make turf history, ^{this century} ~~for~~ Mme Volterra becomes the first owner/to win both the Epsom Derby and the Oaks in successive years.

Victory for Sicarelle and Mme Volterra and for Epsom, it was "French-with tears!"