

ONTARIO JOCKEY CLUB.



UNDoubtedly the greatest social outdoor events of the year in Canada are the Spring and Autumn Meetings of the Ontario Jockey Club, Toronto, which are held in May and September, at the delightfully situated race course of the Club at Woodbine Park on the shores of Lake Ontario. Nowhere, perhaps, on the Continent of America is a more representative gathering of all classes of the community to be seen, which to the visitor has the appearance of a huge garden party; but, while the social side of these meetings is jealously guarded, the Directors of the Ontario Jockey Club have always taken care that the object the Club had in view from its inception, viz.: the improvement of the breed of horses in the Dominion, should not play a secondary part, and therefore distribute annually the large sum of \$100,000 in purses to be competed for at their meetings. This liberality has met with a just reward, for horsemen from all points of the Dominion and the United States foregather at Toronto and assist in making these meetings the success for which they are justly famous.

The King's Plate—the blue ribbon of the Canadian Turf—has also the proud distinction of being the oldest fixture on the American Continent—run continuously since the year 1860.