

THE QUEEN'S-McGILL DEBATE.

(*Special correspondence to the Journal.*)

Montreal, Feb. 6th.

QUEEN'S scored a notable victory here last night by defeating McGill, and carrying off the cup given to the winners in the Intercollegiate Debating League. In the preliminary series Queen's had won from Ottawa College, and McGill had beaten Toronto. Last night's was the final test between the winners of the former debates. The Royal Victoria Hall was the scene of the struggle, and was fairly well filled for the occasion. To enliven the proceedings, when such a step became necessary, the McGill Glee Club provided an excellent musical programme.

The chair was occupied by Mr. F. A. Auld. Queen's was represented by Messrs. Robert Brydon and D. C. Ramsay; McGill by Messrs. D. E. McTaggart and W. H. Cherry. The judges for the debate were Mr. Justice Archibald, Rev. Dr. Symonds, vicar of Christ Church Cathedral, and Rev. Prof. Elliott, of the Wesleyan College. The subject of debate was: "Resolved, that the time has come for a substantial reduction in the Canadian tariff." McGill took the affirmative, and the Queen's men upheld the negative contention.

Opening the case for the affirmative, Mr. McTaggart maintained that the recent sessions of the Tariff Commission had plainly shown that the Canadian people were in favor of a reduction of the tariff, and argued that it was to the interest of every Canadian that such a reduction should be made. A substantial reduction did not necessarily mean a reduction on every article. Mr. McTaggart was especial-

ly in favor of a reduction on farming implements, workmen's tools, steel, coal, and the commodities going to make up these implements and tools. High tariff meant high prices. A reduction of the tariff would mean lower prices. Of our people, seventy-four per cent. were engaged in rural pursuits, and for every dollar invested in manufactures, four were invested in agriculture alone. In view of the smallness of the manufacturing interests of our country, the great majority of the population would benefit by a reduction of the tariff. In the making of such a reduction, Mr. McTaggart favored giving to Great Britain and her colonies a much greater preference than to other countries.

Mr. Brydon, of Queen's, opened for the negative. He declared that so far as lowering the tariff for the benefit of the agricultural interest was concerned, a country should not be developed in part, but as a whole, if it was to be an ideal country. So far Canada had been for the most part a nation of farmers, but had recognized the necessity of other industries. To lower the tariff would be a check to industrial development and a menace to the country as a whole. If the tariff was ever justified it was justified at present as much as ever. While our tariff protected, it was not prohibitive, and to lower it would be a bonus to the American manufacturer, enabling him to come into our country and compete more ruinously with our own manufacturers. If Canada was to be developed at all it must be by building up all her industries.

Mr. Cherry, for the affirmative, dealt more particularly with combines, maintaining that if we were held up, it had better be by our own