

**THE FUTURE OF QUEEN'S.**

THE Queen's University question assumed a new aspect, and certainly an unexpected one, when the General Assembly in June last interposed to arrest the progress of legislation aiming at securing changes in the constitution of the College. The situation of the Church was that of a swain who had secretly admired a maiden, but had never got to the point of making a declaration of his feelings, nor indeed was aware how much he loved her, until he learned that the banns were proclaimed, and that she was about to pass into the arms of the other fellow. It was then with him, "Now or never." The first man in the Assembly to voice appreciation of Queen's was Dr. Lyle of Hamilton, who in his own forceful way declared the University to be the Church's most valuable asset. It apparently needed only some one to start the opposition to the alienation of the College from the Church, for soon there was a chorus of voices, deprecating any further movement in that direction. The rest is known. The Assembly did not pause to think that its apparent change of front might look ridiculous. The interests involved, to a sense of which the Church seemed suddenly to awake, were too serious to be sacrificed to even a desire for consistency. Besides, when matters came to be looked into, it was found that there had been on both hands a misunderstanding of the real situation. The General Assembly had believed that the College authorities had come to the conclusion that even the slender tie by which the institution was bound to the Church was inimical to its interests and that they wished it broken, and so acquiesced in what

seemed the policy of the Board of Trustees; while it was really because the Trustees were of the opinion that the Church was indifferent to the interests of the University, if indeed its relation to the Church was not deemed in certain quarters irksome, that they had taken the steps they did with a view to appealing to the constituency of the graduates of the College, on whose sympathies they knew they could rely, even if the Government of the Province continued to ignore its just claims to consideration and support. The course of the discussion in the Assembly cleared away the misunderstandings, and as a consequence the Commission was appointed which met at Kingston on September fifteenth and sixteenth. The Church, it is seen, has lost no time in endeavouring to meet the responsibility which it assumed in asking the Trustees to stay Parliamentary proceedings looking to changes in the Constitution of the University—the wishes of the General Assembly in the matter, of course, having been yielded to by the Board. Three months given to deliberation, the Commission has backed up the conclusions of the General Assembly, which were come to hastily. The views of the Commission, as formulated in the resolutions carried, leave little to be desired in hearty appreciation of the past record of the University, in friendliness towards it as at present constituted or in readiness to amend that constitution, if it be deemed advisable, in the best interests of the institution. There is, perhaps, indefiniteness about the financial proposals; but in a democratic church, the utmost that representatives can undertake, in the name of the church, is to strongly recommend any measures, and put forth efforts to car-