

12 IS UNIVERSITY QUESTION TO BE REOPENED?

it conceived to be its own interests, and keenly alive to what it knew well would be the burden imposed upon it by the changes which the new departure must require.

THE FEDERATION ACT.

The result, after a year of deliberation, was a scheme embodying the essential features of the original idea of federation first presented in the Baldwin Bill of 1842 and repeated at various later periods. But like all such platforms, it involved many compromises which doubtless rendered it ideally imperfect, and demanded no little faith and self-sacrifice on the part of the various negotiating parties. But, with all its defects, the most important of which have been in part removed by subsequent legislation, the plan was accepted by the members of the conference, laid before their respective governing boards, accepted by some, rejected by others, and finally accepted by the Government and Legislature as the basis of the Federation Act of 1887. Victoria University, the oldest of the denominational colleges, and, when the struggle began the strongest, alone grappled with the moral, legal and financial difficulties of adjustment to the new policy, and after long years of conflict and litigation, and at a cost of nearly a million dollars, finds herself and the people whom she represents securely and strongly in line with the new policy.

QUEEN'S AND FEDERATION.

Queen's, on the other hand, considered the sacrifices to be made and the difficulties to be overcome too great, and determined to try her lot where she was and as she was; and largely through the energy and tact of the great man who presided over her destinies, she has made no unsuccessful battle for continued independent existence. For her brave struggle in this direction, we must all admire her, and honor the brave man whose noblest monument is the Queen's of to-day. Judged by the standards of the old time university college, Queen's is doing excellent work. But judged by the standards of the modern university, her resources must be multiplied many times before she is such a university as the Province demands at the head of her educational system. And when Queen's aspires to be made by Government aid a provincial university co-ordinate with the University of Toronto, several very grave questions arise.

A SERIOUS CRISIS.

1. Can this Province afford two universities fully equipped for the modern requirements, each with an annual income of say a